

### **WHO YOU VIBIN'?**

Another installment of RedEye's "Who You Vibin'?" online dating contest has come to a close, and the winner is ... Carla Fox-Hawthorne! We put her dater profile along with two other single ladies on RedEye's blog and asked readers to vote on whom they're vibin' the most. Their vote was for "The Fox," who is seeking a trustworthy guy who embraces her fun, goofy side and doesn't take life too seriously but knows when to be serious.

If you're interested in getting in touch with Fox-Hawthorne, hit up the e-mail listed below. Whether she responds is up to her, of course. Sign up for the fun—and check out the bachelors featured this week—at redevechicago.com/vibin.

City: Uptown



#### The song that best describes my dating

life: This song describes more of what I want in a guy-"Asking Too Much" by Ani DiFranco.

The most embarrassing thing I'm willing to admit here: I didn't learn my

lesson the first time I was bitten by a monkey. It bit me again.

Age: 27

The best under-the-radar Chicago spot: Big Joe's for turtle racing on Friday nights!

You know you want me because: Have you ever dated a former FFA (Future Farmers of America) president before? Didn't think so.

This celebrity would make my list: Gerard Butler

E-mail: carlafh3@gmail.com



#### WANT TO BE IN REDEYE?

Submit your dater profile to redeyechicago.com. Straight, gay or whatever, RedEye wants to hook you up.

To see

If you're not in the holiday spirit yet, check out the free ZooLights display from 5-9 p.m. Wednesday at Lincoln Park Zoo (2200 N. Cannon Drive). ZooLights is closed Thursday and Friday, then reopens nightly through Jan. 3.

2do

#### To trade

New patients can bring two or more canned food items to be given to The Primo Center for Women and Children through January and receive a free health and wellness consultation and screening at HealthSource Chiropractic and Progressive Rehab (1749 N. Wells St.).

#### To save

Buy one sale item and get one free through the end of the year at A'Gaci (107 S. State St.).



Sleet, snow-get out while you still can



35 We told you to run!





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The sun

does

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## Jackson's FBI files released

Fears of terrorism against star, investigation of molestation claims among thrillers mentioned in government documents made public

#### **Associated Press**

Police concerns that media-hungry terrorists would attack Michael Jackson's trial as a "soft target" led to a request for federal help, according to FBI files kept on the late pop star. The documents also show that the FBI helped facilitate interviews in the Philippines by California authorities investigating Jackson over allegations that he had sexually abused boys.

The FBI monitored Jackson for more than a decade, but the files contain no major revelations about his private life and the bureau apparently never developed any solid evidence against him.

In 2004, the Santa Maria Police Department in California asked for FBI "involvement" after Jackson was arrested for child molestation. Police, according to the FBI, said they believed the court case would be a "soft target" for terrorism because of the "worldwide media coverage" the trial would attract.

The FBI concluded there were no threats, but did note the presence in an early court appearance of "The Nation of Islam, represented by its security unit Fruits of Islam," and of a New Black Panther Party member whose name was left blank in the files. Jackson used Nation of Islam bodyguards during the legal proceedings.

#### **HOW'D THEY GET THOSE FILES?**

The documents, dating from 1992 to 2005, were made public Tuesday through a Freedom of Information Act request from The Associated Press and other media after Jackson's death June 25, at age 50. The FBI initially said it had about 600 pages in its files but released 333 pages, citing privacy rules and the desire to protect investigative techniques.

In September 1993, an investigator from the Los Angeles Police Department and another from the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office arrived in Manila to speak to two former employees of Jackson's Neverland ranch who claimed they saw the singer fondle young boys.

Their trip came after the LAPD had asked the FBI if it wanted to work a possible case against Jackson for transporting a minor across state lines for immoral purposes. The FBI checked with the U.S. Attorney's Office, which declined.

The files say an FBI agent accompanied the California officials to the first interview to make sure there were no problems

## Vatican gives 'Simpsons' a thumbs-up

#### **Associated Press**

To put it as the devout Ned Flanders would, the Vatican's newspaper thinks "The Simpsons" are an okely dokely bunch.

L'Osservatore Romano on Tuesday congratulated the show on its 20th anniversary, praising its philosophical leanings as well as its stinging and often irreverent take on religion.

Without Homer Simpson and the other yellow-skinned characters "many today wouldn't know how to laugh," said the article titled "Aristotle's Virtues and Homer's Doughnut."

The paper credited "The Simpsons"—the longest-running American animated program—with opening up cartoons to an adult audience.

The show is based on "realistic and intelligent writing," it said, though it added there was some reason to criticize its "excessively crude language, the violence of certain episodes or some extreme choices by the scriptwriters."

Religion, from the snore-evoking sermons of the Rev. Lovejoy to Homer's face-to-face talks with God, appears so frequently on the show that it could be possible to come up with a "Simpsonian theology," it said.

Homer's religious confusion and ignorance are "a mirror of the indifference and the need that modern man feels toward faith," the paper said.

It commented on several religion-themed episodes, including one in which Homer calls for divine intervention by crying: "I'm not normally a religious man, but if you're up there, save me, Superman!"

#### **WORLD WIDE WEIRD**

Some stories are too odd to pass up. AP

#### Santa bandit?

He may have been dressed all in fur from his head to his foot, but this Santa was no saint.

According to Metropolitan Nashville Police, a man wearing a Santa Claus suit—including hat, beard and mustache—and dark sunglasses robbed a SunTrust Bank on Tuesday morning, demanding money from the teller at gunpoint.

#### **Belt stops bullet**

Police say a central Pennsylvania man has his belt to thank for escaping injury in a weekend shooting.

Police in Lancaster say the unidentified victim was driving when he was fired at Sunday evening. Bullets struck the car and one passed into the cabin, hitting his belt before stopping. Lancaster police Lt. Todd Umstead says the man was unhurt.

#### Stop playing that game!

Police say a frustrated Boston woman called 911 to say she couldn't get her 14-year-old son to stop playing video games and go to sleep. Police spokesman Officer Joe Zanoli said Monday the mother called for help around 2:30 a.m. Saturday to say that the teenager also walked around the house and turned on all the lights.

Two officers who responded to the house persuaded the child to obey his mother. The game? "Grand Theft Auto."

we find her.

you meet he<u>re!</u>

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YOU TO
WOMEN
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COULDN'T
POSSIBLY
MEET ON
YOUR OWN



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What's your take



## The Force is with RedEye's bloggers

Darth Vader in New York? Chicago party mistakes? Brittany Murphy's untimely death? If it's news getting buzz in Chicago or around the world, it's on RedEye's blogs. Check out these excerpts from our bloggers' recent posts, then join the conversation at **redeyechicago.com**.

#### **Darth Vader on Wall Street**

Uh yeah, that's right! Today's guest to ring the opening bell on the NYSE was none other than the Dark Lord himself, DARTH VADER!

The question remains if the construction of a new Death Star will affect unemployment to the degree that Emperor Palpatine keeps insisting it will.

-ELLIOTT SERRANO ON "GEEK TO ME" (REDEYECHICAGO.COM/GEEKTOME)

#### Dos and don'ts to finding a Chicago party

I am not of a Puritanical mindset, and I do believe you can and should accentuate the blessings of the body. But I do not want to hang out in parties where women's dresses stop just below the butt cheek and begin damn near under the bust line. I entered such a locale, which shall go unmentioned, last Tuesday night and immediately felt like I was an extra in "Hookers at the Point."

-KYRA KYLES ON "THE KYLES FILES" (REDEYECHICAGO.COM/KYLESFILES)

#### **Brittany Murphy dies at 32**

With the death of Brittany Murphy, 2009 continues to pick off celebrities and iconic stars even as it comes to a close. This has certainly been a year of unexpected and sudden loss ... many way before their time. At each event, we collectively pause and contemplate our own mortalities, while remembering the star that was. Even DJ AM, who miraculously survived a plan crash in 2008, was finally taken down by his demons.

-ANA FERNATT ON "ACCIDENTALLY SEXY" (REDEYECHICAGO.COM/SEXY)



Chicago Tribune

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Circulation: redservice@tribune.com

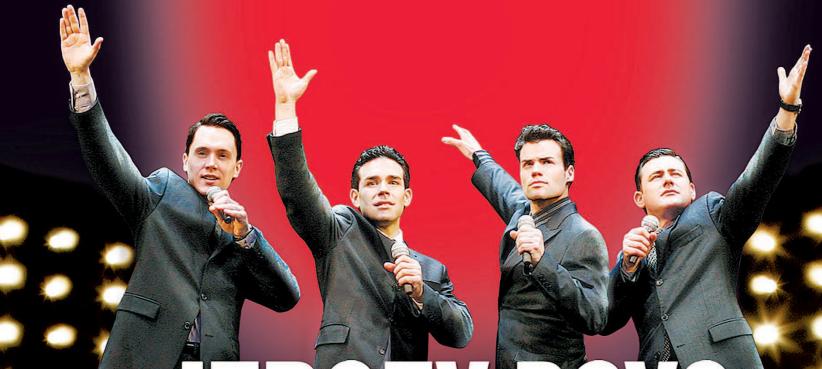
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RedEye, a Chicago Tribune publication, is published six days a week, except on certain holidays.

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## DIVIDED THEY STAND

## Abortion attitudes shifting? Too soon to tell, polls say—but Chicagoans on both sides are voicing their opinions

By Leonor Vivanco | REDEYE

As a kid, Corrina Gura was fascinated by babies.

She remembers visiting the specimens of preserved human embryos and fetuses on display in the Prenatal Development exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry with her parents. When her aunt was pregnant, she asked if she could rest her hand on her aunt's belly.

Those experiences years ago helped shape Gura's current belief that a baby's life begins at conception. "All it needs is a place to grow and food, and it will survive, which is what I need," said Gura, who lives in Skokie and works as a projects coordinator for the Pro-Life Action League in Forest Glen.

The 26-year-old is one Millennial who opposes abortion in all instances at a time when the hot-button topic has become a sticking point in the national debate over the health care bill. It's a major concern among young adults on both sides of the issue—57 percent of women who had abortions in 2004 in the U.S. were in their 20s, according to a report last year by the Guttmacher Institute, which studies sexual and reproductive health.

Up for debate in the health bill, currently making its way through the Senate, is whether there will be restrictions on federal funding for abortion services. Chicago's newly passed "bubble zone" law, which places restrictions on distance between activists and people entering medical facilities that provide abortion services, has brought the issue closer to home.

Whether young people are more or less in favor of abortion today than in years past is hard to say, according to recent polling. But with the abortion debate recently reignited, opponents and advocates in the Chicago area are sounding off.

"Abortion is legal and all they need to do to keep it legal is nothing," said Matt Yonke of Aurora, who believes humans are human from conception and deserve human rights. "We



Corrina Gura (right) is a Projects Coordinator for the Pro-Life Action League in Chicago. BRIAN J. MOROWCZYNSKI/FOR REDEYE

have to be vocal to get attention to affect the change we believe is necessary."

Yonke, 29, assistant communication director of the Pro-Life Action League, which advocates nonviolent activism, said he has seen an increase lately in the number of people interested in getting involved. He pointed to President Obama as a "lightning rod" on the issue because of Obama's support for abortion rights.

Meanwhile, NARAL Pro-Choice America, an abortion-rights advocacy group formerly known as the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, is working on ways to change previous policies and communicate with the public on the need to protect abortion options, said Ted Miller, communications director.

"Our electoral successes, including the election of a pro-choice president, could lead to some complacency in pro-choice voters. That's our principle concern," he said.

The organization, he said, is paying attention to Millennials. The generational label, which most sources attach to people born from the early '80s to the early 2000s, are poised to be larger than the Baby Boom group, making them a powerful and influential voting bloc, he said.

#### **Tracking opinion**

Are attitudes on abortion shifting? Not according to the latest poll done in November by The Washington Post. However, some recent polls have snagged headlines for suggesting the answer is "yes." For example, a Pew Research Center poll in August suggested Americans are

becoming more evenly divided on the abortion issue, while Gallup polls from May and July showed more people calling themselves "pro-life" than "pro-choice." (See "Taking the nation's temperature," Page 8)

Still, polls paint a confusing picture when it comes to how young adults ages 18 to 29 view the abortion issue. A recent Gallup poll showed support for abortion rights slipping from 54 percent "pro-choice" in 2007-08 to 48 percent this year. In the same survey, opposition grew from 42 percent "pro-life" to 46 percent.

But a Pew Research Center poll showed attitudes on the abortion issue stayed steady among young adults from 2007 through this year. That 2009 poll showed 52 percent of people ages 18 to 29 support abortion rights while 44 percent oppose them.

Another indicator: Voters last year rejected ballot measures in South Dakota, Colorado and California. Colorado's measure would have amended the state constitution to define a person as a human being from the moment of fertilization. The measures in California and South Dakota would have restricted abortion.

#### A murky issue

Even within each movement, both sides see gray areas, underscoring the complexity of the issue. There are those who think abortion should be legal in all instances, those who think it should be illegal in all instances and many variations on the question of legality in between. Furthermore, some see it as a policy matter, a personal choice or some combination of the two.



"You can be pro-choice and still be pro-life in the sense that a pro-choice person can choose life for them individually but advocate for that right not to be taken away from others," said Brandy Peak, 22, of Logan Square, who believes abortion should be a decision made by a woman and her doctor.

No matter where they stand on the abortion issue, advocates and opponents say, there are times when they are mischaracterized.

There's a misconception that the abortionrights movement has no space for religious people, and that if you believe in God you should be against abortion, said Binya Bahrami, 24, who believes women should have the right to have an abortion.

"Yes, I am a Muslim," said Bahrami, who lives in Wicker Park and is a program coordinator for a center for torture survivors.

"I wear a hijab and believe in God. And I also believe every single woman should have the right to free health care, and abortion should be free and on demand."

Anya Thetford, 22, of Hyde Park, who opposes abortion in all instances, appreciates discussion on the multifaceted issue, but said engaging in dialogue on her college campus can be difficult. Thetford, a University of Chicago stu-

DECEMBER 23, 2009 I REDEYE



dent, said her campus "tends to be left-leaning on social issues."

As such, she said, she feels her anti-abortion view gets stifled in conversations.

"If I will bring up the fact that I'm pro-life and explain my reasoning, I find that a lot of times that will be discredited or discounted simply by the fact that I am a Christian," Thetford said. Her reason for being against abortion, however, has more to do, she said, with what she sees as the arbitrary decision being made on when it's OK for a life to be terminated and by whom.

Abortion opponents say they get unfairly labeled as being blinded by religion, closeminded, pushy and against women's rights. They say that's not who they really are.

"It seems people see pro-lifers as crazy religious people or crazy anti-feminist people," said Joseph Paolelli, 21, a student at Northwestern University who believes abortion is wrong except when a mother's life is threatened. Countering, Bahrami said, "I feel like whether or not you're religious or decide an abortion is right for you, I feel like that being anti-choice is a major attack on women's rights. I don't see how you can advocate women's rights and say they don't have a right to choose."

#### **SENATE UPDATE**

The White House and Democrats are predicting Senate passage of President Obama's health overhaul by Christmas after the bill cleared a crucial vote Tuesday.

The Senate measure would still have to be harmonized with the health care bill passed by the House in November before final legislation would go to Obama.

There are significant differences between the two bills, including stricter abortion language in the House bill, a new government-run insurance plan in the House bill that's missing from the Senate version and a tax on high-value insurance plans embraced by the Senate but strongly opposed by many House Democrats.

Senate moderates have served notice they won't support a final deal if government-run insurance comes back. And Democratic abortion opponents in the House say a Senate compromise on the volatile issue is unacceptable. Associated PRESS

While they do protest at abortion clinics and Planned Parenthood sites showing graphic pictures, young anti-abortion activists say they're trying to steer away from being portrayed as abrasive, confrontational and badgering.

Instead, abortion opponents point out they hold prayer services and offer what they describe as sidewalk counseling, which involves their attempts to speak with people entering clinics. They hand out information on crisis pregnancy centers and adoption services.

"You do get the ones real upset and [who say] 'You don't know my story, where I came from, what's going on in my life, and who are you to tell me all this stuff.' I tell them: 'I don't know your story or situation, but I'm here and I want to help you,' "said Michael Laughlin, 20, president of Loyola University Chicago's Students for Life.

On the other side of the issue, there are young adults involved in the Illinois Choice Action Team who counter anti-abortion protests. For example, the Pro-Life Action League sang Christmas carols last weekend at centers that provide abortion services. The Illinois Choice Action Team showed up at those centers to show their support for abortion rights.

Whatever happens in the abortion debate, attention to the issue shows no sign of letting up. Said Thetford, who believes the issue won't go away any time soon: "There will be a fight to the end." LVIVANCO@TRIBUNE.COM

#### Abortion compromise in Senate irks both sides

#### **The Washington Post**

**WASHINGTON** The abortion language added to the Senate's health care bill to win the vote of Sen. Ben Nelson (D-Neb.), has achieved a rare feat: It is draw-



Nelson

ing contempt from both sides.

That could be taken as a sign that senators have finally found an elusive compromise on a thorny issue.

But serious questions are already being raised about how the new language would work in practice and whether it would even be feasible to implement.

The long-standing ban on federal funding for abortions has complicated congressional Democrats' health-care legislation. Medicaid bans federal funding for abortions, but 17 states and the District of Columbia allow abortions for female Medicaid enrollees paid out of their own funds. It is harder to reach middle ground in the bill before Congress, which would provide federal subsidies to millions of people to buy private health insurance plans on a new marketplace, or "exchange." The deal reached by Nelson and other Democrats over the weekend would allow those people to purchase insurance plans with abortion coverage. But they would have to write two separate premium checks—one to cover the bulk of their plan, and the other to cover the sliver for abortion coverage, likely a dollar or so per month.

By contrast, an amendment that passed the House would prohibit insurers from selling plans with abortion coverage to anyone buying coverage with the help of subsidies—excluding 85 percent of customers on the exchange. The amendment, sponsored by Reps. Bart Stupak (D-Mich.), and Joe Pitts (R-Pa.), would permit the sale of "riders" for abortion coverage, but abortion rights groups say it is offensive to expect women to buy separate coverage for a procedure most do not plan on needing.

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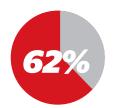
GETTY, TRIBUNE AND MCT FILE PHOTOS

#### By the numbers

Here is a sampling of recent national polls, which show varying—at times contradicting—attitudes on legal abortion and how Americans label themselves. *Numbers do not add up to 100 in all cases*.

#### **CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES, JUNE**

Do you think the Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade was a good thing or bad thing?



32%

Good

Bad

#### **CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES, JUNE**

Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn its decision?



29%

Not overturn

Overturn

## Taking the nation's temperature

#### **By Leonor Vivanco**

Is the tide shifting on the abortion issue? Results from scientific polls seem inconclusive for now.

There are many factors to consider when looking at results and comparing them to other polls, said Mira Sotirovic, an associate professor of the department of journalism, who teaches a public opinion course at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"When you see a poll result, you should try to find another poll that uses exactly the same question about the same time and make sure the sample comes from the same population," she said. In addition, other factors include answer options, the context of the poll and whether other questions prime those polled on how to respond to the issue, and whether the timing of the poll coincides with media coverage on the issue, which can cause people to change their opinion, she said.

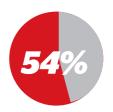
Questions about the legality of abortion seem more relevant than asking people to label themselves "pro-life" or "pro-choice" because it's more neutral and related to social policies, she said.

Sotirovic said she could not make a strong conclusion about a possible shift in attitudes based on a few polls. Several polls need to have results that move in the same direction over a certain period of time to show a trend, she said. "We really do not expect very dramatic changes in a relatively short amount of time," she said. If there are dramatic changes, they should be confirmed in other polls, she said.

Future polls will tell whether attitudes on abortion are changing. With inconsistent poll results, it's unclear that any significant change is happening, Sotirovic said.

#### **WASHINGTON POST, NOVEMBER**

Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases, or illegal in all cases?



Answered legal in all or most cases, compared to 55 percent in June



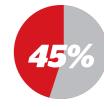
Answered illegal in all or most cases, compared to 43 percent in June

#### **PEW RESEARCH CENTER, AUGUST**

Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases, or illegal in all cases?



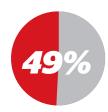
Answered legal in all or most cases, compared to 46 percent in April



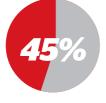
Answered illegal in all or most cases, compared to 44 percent in April

#### CNN/OPINION RESEARCH CORP., APRIL

Would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?



Pro-choice, compared to 53 percent in August 2008



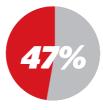
Pro-life, compared to 44 percent in August 2008

#### FOX NEWS/OPINION DYNAMICS POLL, NOVEMBER

Would you say you are more pro-life or more pro-choice? \*registered voters



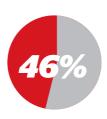
Pro-choice, compared to 43 percent in May



Pro-life, compared to 49 percent in May

#### **USA TODAY/GALLUP, JULY**

Would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?



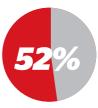
Pro-choice, compared to 42 percent in May



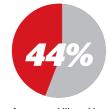
Pro-life, compared to 51 percent in May

#### **AP-GFK, MAY/JUNE**

Which comes closest to your opinion on abortion: abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases, or illegal in all cases?



Answered legal in all or most cases



Answered illegal in all or most cases

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## chicago

## Mom killed, son hurt

#### Hit-and-run driver slams into family walking home in Rogers Park

#### **Chicago Tribune**

Felix Worthon didn't want his wife to walk home alone at night after work, so as he did most evenings, he and their young son met her Monday night at a nearby bus stop.

Moments later, on the way back to their Rogers Park apartment, a speeding car smashed into Maria and Jeremia, 6, as they crossed a narrow, car-lined street. The Pontiac Grand Prix sped off without stopping as Worthon looked on helplessly.

The impact sent Maria's body hurtling about half a block down the street, according to a family friend who witnessed the crash.

"She was holding Jeremia's hand and had her back turned, and this car was just coming down the street like a bat out of hell and hit both of them," said Maurice Glover, who was leaving a church in the 7000 block of North Greenview Avenue that both he and the Worthons attend.

Maria Worthon, 49, a Fiji native, was declared dead at the scene, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office. Jeremia was rushed to a hospital in critical condition.

A short time later, Chicago police took a suspect into custody for questioning, but no charges had been filed against him by Tuesday evening.

Relatives said the Worthons met about 10 years ago when a wheelchair-bound Felix was recuperating from a severe car crash in Seattle and Maria, a nurse, cared for him. The two fell in love and married.

"She was my soul mate," a shaken Felix



Linda Worthon, whose sister-in-law Maria Worthon was killed, talks Tuesday outside Children's Memorial Hospital about the tragedy. Maria's son was left in critical condition. PHIL VELASQUEZ/TRIBUNE



Worthon said Tuesday outside his child's room at Children's Memorial Hospital. "If it weren't for her, I wouldn't be on my feet right now."

Glover estimated that the hit-and-run car was

traveling at 75 to 100 miles an hour at the time of the crash about 9 p.m.

"I knew she was dead on impact," Glover said of Maria Worthon. "And, at first I couldn't move. I was just in total shock, but then I saw the child lying there."

Chicago police chased the Pontiac Grand Prix as it fled the crash scene. As they closed in on the suspect, the driver struck some parked cars, jumped out and attempted to flee on foot, police said

The suspect was taken into custody and questioned by police.

### **CTA bus coming? Check your texts**

#### Chicago Tribune

CTA customers can now sign up for text messages telling them when the next bus will arrive at their stop, transit officials announced at a Tuesday morning news conference.

The text-messaging service is being linked to CTA Bus Tracker, a popular trip-planning service that uses GPS to track the locations of about 2,000 buses on all 150 CTA bus routes. Bus Tracker provides real-time estimates of

#### KEEPING TABS ON TRANSPORTATION

Read more about the CTA at **redeyechicago**. **com/goingpublic** 

how many minutes until the next several buses are due to arrive at specific stops.

For several years commuters have been able to access Bus Tracker at **ctabustracker.com** using computers and Internet-equipped mobile devices. The CTA is now offering another option in

the form of Bus Tracker text-messages sent directly to riders' cell phones.

By sending a text message to 41411 with "CTABUS" and a bus stop identification number, riders will receive the estimated arrival times of the next two buses at their stop.

E-mail alerts are also available to inform CTA riders about planned construction and repairs, as well as emergencies, affecting bus and rail service.

#### Animals die at Shedd, Brookfield Zoo

The Brookfield Zoo on Tuesday announced the death of Christy, an African elephant. Meanwhile, the Shedd Aquarium announced that a male baby beluga whale born in a difficult birth Sunday at the aquarium died after never establishing a bond with his mother or learning to nurse from her.

The 29-year-old pachyderm, who arrived at the zoo in 1984, was euthanized as a result of kidney failure, the Chicago Zoological Society announced in a news release. The Shedd did not give details of where or when the calf died.

#### Delay expected in Gitmo prison transfer

Rebuffed this month by skeptical lawmakers when it sought finances to buy a prison in rural Illinois, the Obama administration is struggling to come up with the money to replace the Guantanamo Bay prison. As a result, officials now believe that they are unlikely to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and transfer its population of terrorism suspects until 2011 at the earliest.

Officials estimated that it could take eight to 10 months to install new fencing, towers, cameras and other security upgrades before any transfers take place. Such construction cannot begin until the federal government buys the prison from the state of Illinois.

#### Plans unveiled for new South Side Irish Parade

The tradition of the South Side Irish Parade, a victim of its own success, will be carried on in a family fest that will be part of 10 days of celebrations next March, organizers said on their Web site.

The South Side Irish Parade
Committee announced March 25
that it would no longer sponsor
the parade because the estimated
300,000 revelers each year are too
much for the Beverly and Morgan
Park neighborhoods to take. Next
March, organizers plan to hold
a South Side Irish Parade Family
Fest at the Beverly Arts Center,
according to a statement on the
organizers' Web site.

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#### **Deadly dust storm**

A sudden dust storm Tuesday spawned a series of collisions involving as many as 20 vehicles on Interstate 10 south of Phoenix, leaving at least three people dead.

#### **Mom blasts EMTs**

Two emergency medical technicians in New York accused of refusing to help a dving pregnant woman are "inhuman," her mother said Tuesday as a lawyer for the EMTs argued his clients are being vilified in a rush to judgment.

#### **Obama threat arrest**

Authorities say a woman accused of threatening to kill first lady Michelle Obama is in federal custody in Honolulu as the Obama family plans to travel to Hawaii.

#### **GOP gains House seat**

U.S. House Democrat Parker Griffith of Alabama, who opposes the health care overhaul, announced Tuesday he is defecting to the GOP, another blow to Democrats ahead of the midterm elections.

#### Dog catches swine flu

A dog in suburban New York is the first in the nation confirmed to be carrying the same strain of swine flu that is infecting humans, experts said Tuesday.

#### Ears, noses ordered cut off

A Pakistani court has ordered the noses and ears of two men cut off after they did the same thing to a young woman whose family spurned a marriage proposal from one of the men, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

#### **THE DIGIT**

Feng Zhenghu has been camping out at Tokyo's international airport for 50 days. sleeping on a blue plastic bench and surviving on handouts of crackers and noodles from passers-by. The Chinese rights activist has a visa to enter Japan, but he's staying to protest China's refusal to let him return to his homeland, where he's been denied entry eight times since June.

## Hero's family gunned down

**MEXICO CITY** Assailants on Tuesday gunned down the mother, aunt and siblings of a marine killed in a raid that took out one of Mexico's most powerful cartel leaders, sending a chilling message to troops battling the drug war: You go after us, we wipe out

The brazen pre-dawn slayings came just hours after the navy honored Melquisedec Angulo as a national hero at a memorial ser-

"The message is very clear: It's to intimidate not only the government but its flesh and blood," said Jorge Chabat, a Mexican expert on drug cartels. "It's to intimidate those in the armed forces so they fear not

shoplifting rather than the underlying problem

he wanted to address.

#### THE DRUG LORD

Arturo Beltran Leyva was among the most-wanted drug lords in Mexico and the United States, and was the biggest trafficker taken down by President Felipe Calderon's administration so far.

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration officials blamed his cartel for much of the bloodshed across Mexico.

only for their own lives, but the lives of their families."

Federal officials had warned last week's killing of drug lord Arturo Beltran Leyva, known as the "boss of bosses," could provoke a violent backlash from smugglers, who have gone after federal police in the past following the arrest of high-ranking cartel members.

Even so, the country was shocked by the brutal slayings of Angulo's family at their home just hours after the fallen marine's mother, Irma Cordova, 55, attended his memorial service in Mexico City, where she received the Mexican flag covering his cof-

His brother, Benito Angulo, 28; his sister, Jolidabey Angulo, 22; and aunt, Josefa Angulo, 46, also were killed shortly after midnight when gunmen wielding assault rifles broke down the door of their home.

Another sister, Miraldeyi Angulo, 24, was reported in serious condition at a hospital.

for what could be a

major eruption. AP





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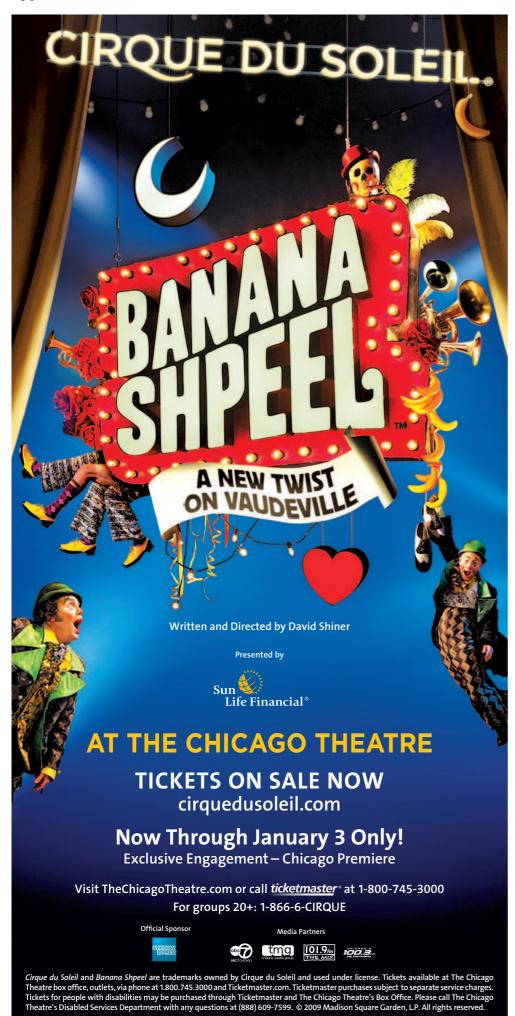






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14



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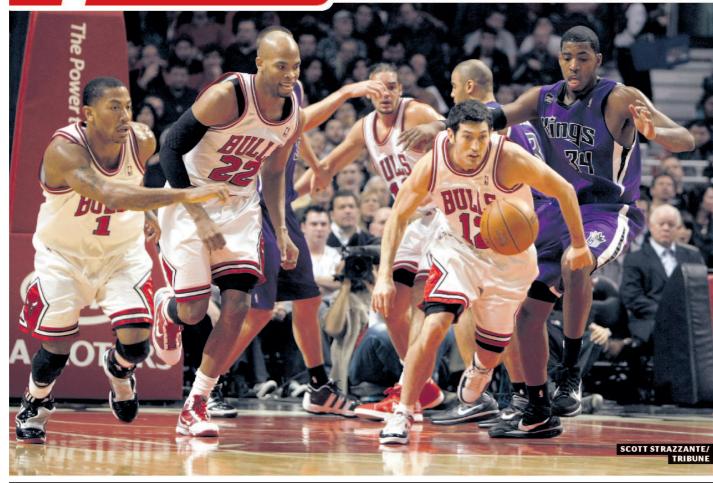
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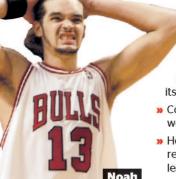
## BIG BUST THEORIES

Just how did the Bulls blow a 35-point second-half lead? Let's count the ways

#### **Chicago Tribune**

Bulls fans are still trying to figure out how the team blew a 35-point third-quarter lead Monday against Sacramento. We have a few possibilities:

- » New rule: No more than one pass per fourth-quarter possession.
- » Hey, it was the 12-14 Sacramento Kings. YOU try to keep it together against those guys.
- » Inspired by the 'Hawks, they decided to play hard. For three periods.
- Vinny was tired of Lovie Smith hogging all of the coach-watch headlines.



» Joakim Noah's assistant once again mistakenly scheduled his hair appointment for 10 p.m., not 10 a.m.

» Team looked deep inside, asked itself, "What would Ron Mercer do?"

- Corollary to new rule: No drives, only well-guarded jumpers are acceptable.
- » How they blew it? Actually, what we're really wondering is how they got that lead in the first place.
- Team realized blowing 35 was an NBA record, decided to go for it.

#### N.Y. KNICKS 88, BULLS 81

David Lee rattled in the clinching jumper with 5.5 seconds left, finishing with 18 points and a career high-tying 21 rebounds as the New York Knicks held on for an 88-81 victory over the Bulls on Tuesday night.

One night after a humiliating collapse at home, the Bulls nearly battled back from a huge deficit in this one. But New York prevailed for its third straight victory and seventh in nine games.

Derrick Rose scored 22 of his 26 points in the second half for the Bulls, who whittled a 22-point deficit to one in the final two minutes. AP

Fantasy title talk

Santa can fit an amazing amount of stuff in that magical sack of his, but there's one thing the big guy can't deliver—a fantasy football championship. That's why Dr. Fantasy is here: To make sure your lineup is so full of goodness that you'll want to kiss someone under the mistletoe.



redeyesports @tribune.com

#### Waiver wire wonders

Mike Wallace, wide receiver, Pittsburgh: This year was supposed to be Santonio Holmes' coming-out party but it's Wallace (not to be confused with the old dude from "60 Minutes") who's having all the fun lately for the Steelers. He could slip in as your third wideout or flex position this week.

Maurice Morris, running back, Detroit: He doesn't have a great matchup against the Niners in Week 16, but MoMo is seeing, well, the lion's share of the carries for Detroit with Kevin Smith done for the year and could be a decent start if you have a hole to fill.

Jermichael Finley, tight end, Green Bay: Totally off the radar early in the season, Finley is emerging as a favorite target of Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers. Start him with confidence.

Garrett Hartley, kicker, New Orleans: Hartley is still underowned in fantasy leagues despite getting his kicking job back for the Saints. He's got a dream match upcoming against the Bucs.

#### Locks of the week

**Vernon Davis, tight end, vs. Detroit:** Davis is quietly becoming the league's best pass-catching tight end.

**David Garrard, quarterback, vs. New England:** The yo-yo-like Garrard is good every other week, and guess what he did last week?

Marques Colston, wide receiver, vs. Tampa Bay: Puny Bucs! Don't make the Saints angry, you won't like the Saints when they're angry!

#### Chumps of the week

Jay Cutler, quarterback, vs. Minnesota: "Dear Jay, thanks for all of those gift-wrapped INTs for Christmas. Love, the Vikings."

Braylon Edwards, wide receiver, vs. Indianapolis: Start him against the Colts and you'll get a lump of coal in your fantasy stocking. D.R. SMITHIS A REDEYESPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

What would it mean for the

Red Wings in Detroit tonight?

Bears Web site?

Blackhawks if they can beat the

What's one thing you might hear

What's one using you ....g...
an announcer say about the Bears

on "Monday Night Football" next week?

What would you call your anti-

What would you hand out to

Why isn't Northwestern getting any love in the college basketball

players in your bowl game swag

#### Wingin' it

**TOPIC** 

bag?

We'd like to send these five to Detroit for the Blackhawks game, but they'd just come back. Play at redeyechicago.com/5on5.



twitter.com/redeeyesports

It'd be the symbolic passing

Hawks, you'll melt the ice.

FOURTH TIME TONIGHT."

donotfearthebears.com

Dollar bills. They might want

to make it rain.

The voters still don't

know Northwestern has a

of the torch. But don't drop it.

"Jay Cutler picked off-for the

**JIMMY GREENFIELD** jgreenfield@chicagonow.com

"Are you ready for some

fireloviesmith. Go there now.

It's real and it's spectacular.

Bourbon and condoms.

So we'll enjoy it that much

more when they romp

through the Big Ten and

make the NCAA tourney.

crappy football?"

chicagonow.com/

something.

Two points, nothing more. Do Bully for you, Chicago. Bully. it twice in May and it'll mean For, You.

the Bears"

solutions.

"The Vikings are serving up a

brrrducken. They just stuffed

"Bear Club for Men." It would

give members Bear loss

Does anyone from

all pulling for you, NU.

Northwestern get love? We're

twitter.com/tracyswartz

**TRACY SWARTZ** 

bragging rights.

"Lost their bite." "Mangy." "Declawed." Some cliche about a sad bear.

**DR. FANTASY** 

"What are we doing here?" - Micah Green

fmylovie.com

twitter.com/redeyesports

Zambonis for everyone!

- Andrea Morowczynski

WEBBY

redeyesports@tribune.com

Temporary upper Midwest

NoloveforLovie.com

– Connie Reyes

New gloves to protect their Little mini-Heisman Trophies made of chocolate and Dick assets. I'd put that in their Vitale bobblehead dolls. shag bag too.

> NU doesn't exactly have the strongest of basketball reputations. They gotta earn

A box of tissues for all the

tears. - Rebecca Griftner

Chicago is too overwhelmed with pseudo-tourists to show any love for them right now. - Jennifer Healy it the hard way.

rankings? basketball team.



#### **NOW MOVIEGOERS HAVE** SOMETHING TO CHEERS ABOUT.

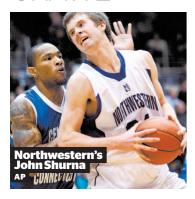
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DECEMBER 23, 2009 I REDEYE from news services **Shortstops** 17

#### CAMPUS CRAWL



#### NORTHWESTERN 74, CENTRAL CONNECTICUT ST. 54

#### 'Cats cruise

Northwestern improved to 10-1 with a 74-54 victory over Central Connecticut State, but the result was the only thing that was pretty about this one.

The Wildcats played poorly in almost every phase: They shot 5-for-22 from 3-point land, had continual lapses on defense and couldn't put the Blue Devils away until the final four minutes.

All this against a 3-5 (now 3-6) team from the Northeast Conference whose tallest rotation player is 6-foot-5.

John Shurna was a bright spot. He scored a career-high 29 points on 11-for-15 shooting.

#### FLORIDA GULF COAST 64, DEPAUL 61

A last-second 3-point attempt by Will Walker didn't draw iron as DePaul lost 64-61 to Florida Gulf Coast. Mac Koshwal had 16 points for DePaul (7-5) while Jeremiah Kelly added 12 and Walker 11.

#### **TUESDAY'S OTHER RESULTS**

- » Illinois St. 80, Grambling St. 56
- » Loyola 68, Albany 56
- » Akron 77, UIC 65
- » N. Illinois 87, Maryland-E. Shore 69
- » Purdue 90, SIU-Edwardsville 63
- » E. Illinois 100, Franklin 40
- » W. Illinois 55. Central Arkansas 44
- » Chicago St. at E. Washington, late



The Blackhawks' Jonathan Toews battles the San Jose Sharks' Joe Thornton in the 1st period Tuesday at the United Center. The Hawks fell to the Sharks, 3-2.

SCOTT STRAZZANTE/ TRIBUNE

#### **SAN JOSE 3, BLACKHAWKS 2**

## Shark-bitten

You might say the Blackhawks missed too many opportunities to count in a 3-2 loss to San Jose at the United Center on Tuesday, except the giant glowing numbers on the scoreboards did the tallying for everyone.

On 47 shots, the Hawks managed just two scores against the Sharks' Evgeni Nabokov, failing to produce on any number of power-play opportunities, scrums in front of the net and pucks sliding unattended through the crease.

Marian Hossa zipped a shot over Nabokov's shoulder at the 18:09 mark to make it a one-goal game and add at least a little drama to the proceedings, but the Hawks could not score with the empty net in the last minute.

Meanwhile, San Jose was efficient if not spectacular, taking advantage of Hawks' gaffes for three scores on a mere 14 shots to take this round of a battle between the top two teams in the Western Conference.

The Hawks finally broke through on their 34th shot of the night, when Patrick Kane took a feed from Hossa in front of the goal and jammed a backhand by Nabokov to slice the deficit to 2-1 at the 4:10 mark of the third.

Then another Sharks rush vacuumed the energy out of the building. Twenty seconds later, Jason Demers took a feed from Joe Thornton on an odd-man rush and beat Cristobal Huet on a top-shelf slap shot, bumping the lead back to 3-1.





Remember Christmas Eve 2007 when the Bulls fired Scott Skiles? Vinny Del Negro wishes he didn't.

Here now, my TV picks.



#### NHL

#### Blackhawks at Detroit

6:30 p.m. CSN

The Hawks just shut out the Red Wings at the UC. If they can do it in Detroit—wow.



#### POINSETTIA BOWL

#### California vs. Utah

7 p.m. ESPN

Cal has made seven straight bowls. I just ate my seventh bowl of food in a row.



#### COLLEGE BASKETBALI Illinois vs.

#### Missouri

8:30 p.m. ESPN2

It's the annual Braggin' Rights game in St. Louis. Guys, nothing to brag about here.



» Playing her best at the most important events, Serena Williams re-established herself as the top player in women's tennis in 2009 and was a landslide choice as Female Athlete of the Year by members of The Associated Press. » Lance Briggs pointed the finger at one person to blame for the Bears' 5-9 collapse the season: himself. "If I was a better leader, maybe we win more games, period," the linebacker and defensive co-captain said during a community visit Tuesday.

» Chris Henry's fiance Loleini Tonga wept as she spoke about the late Cincinnati Bengals receiver Tuesday, saying he changed her life. Henry, 26, was killed Thursday after he fell out of a pickup driven by Tonga during what police call a domestic dispute.

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#### **BYOB NYE**

Want to pop your own top on New Year's Eve? Check out metromix.com

## BYO GLEE

### 5 BYOB restaurants that swept us off our

## feet this year

#### By M. Kathleen Pratt and Lisa Balde

Our love for a good BYOB never grows old, but in a year where many of us were keeping a close eye on the bottom line, we needed our BYOBs more than ever. These five '09 newcom-

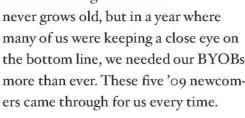


Bridgeport-who knew?), but the value brought us back again and again. Five fresh and well-portioned courses of contemporary. Chinese-focused fare for \$20 is one of the best prix-fixe deals of the year. Grab your bottle and make a reservation-this whitetablecloth gem gets packed on weekends.



1912 N. Western Ave. 773-252-1414

With this Asian-Latin follow-up to Urban Belly, Bill Kim and his crew have perfected the counter-service BYOB formula. Ignore the occasional rumble from the Blue Line as it passes overhead, embrace the strippeddown, deliberately industrial decor and allow yourself to focus on the mishmash of international flavors that come together on Kim's one-of-a-kind sandwich-, soup- and salad-focused menu.





# **FILE PHOTOS FOR METROMIX**

#### **Chilam Balam**

3023 N. Broadway, 773-296-6901

Chuy Valencia's limited-reservations, cash-only Lakeview spot packs a whole lot of flavor into a tight subterranean space with a locally-sourced, seasonally-focused lineup of sharable Mexican plates. (Just don't ask us to share the ceviche—we prefer to keep that one all to ourselves.) Margarita mix comes by the pitcher, so BYO tequila to get the party started.



#### **Amelia's Mestizo Grill**

4559 S. Halsted St. 773-538-8200

We'd drive to Indiana for a taste of former Mundial Cocina Mestiza chef Eusevio Garcia's globallyinfluenced Mexican fare, so Back of the Yards hardly seems an effort. Why this casual neighborhood spot with bend-over-backward friendly service isn't yet packed every night of the week is beyond us. Go. Now.

#### Birchwood Kitchen

2211 W. North Ave. 773-276-2100

The back deck at this Wicker Park counter-service spot specializing in artisan sandwiches quickly became one of our favorite spots to kick back with a bottle of wine during the summer, especially after they started firing up the grill for weekly burger nights. Now that the cold's set in, we're more than happy to settle for house-made soup and a beer indoors.



M. KATHLEEN PRATT IS THE METROMIX DINING PRODUCER. LISA BALDE IS THE METROMIX PRINT EDITOR.





#### **Office Party Bowl** 10pin bowling lounge, 330 N. State St. 312-644-0300

Get two hours of bowling, two drink tickets and a green light for the appetizer buffet during two party sessions. 4 and 6 p.m. \$25.

#### 'What's the Matter with Kansas?

Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St. 312-846-2800

See the lauded documentary about right-wing conservatism in the heartland, based on Thomas Frank's best-selling book. 7:45 p.m. \$7-\$10.



#### Holiday menu

Little Bucharest Bistro, 3661 N. Elston Ave. 773-604-8500

In honor of Craciunul, the Romanian Christmas celebration, try a holiday prix-fixe menu for \$20 through Sunday. Dishes include smoked sausages, stuffed cabbage, roasted pork and more. 5 p.m.

#### Matzo Ball

Martini Park, 151 W. Erie St. 312-640-0577

Meet Jewish singles at the 23rd annual matchmaking bash, which takes place in 15 cities across the U.S. DJ Jimmy spins. 8 p.m. \$25-\$30.



#### Cheap drinks

Hydrate, 3458 N. Halsted St. 773-975-9244

After a long day of relaxing, you're sure to need a break. And by "break" we mean \$1 cocktails. Get 'em all night as DJ Laura B spins. 8 p.m. No cover before 1 a.m.; \$5 after.

#### 20 dining (iii)

5 p.m.: Specials such as oysters Rockefeller and grilled lobster with bay scallop-sweet pea risotto available in addition to the regular menu. Prices vary; 200 N. Columbus Drive, The Fairmont Hotel. 312-444-9494

#### **BIG JONES**

5 p.m.: Four-course dinner featuring salmon terrine with spinach, turtle soup with poached quail egg, New York strip with butterpoached prawns and red velvet cake. Regular menu also available. \$55. Beverage pairings available for \$25; 5347 N. Clark St. 773-275-5725.

#### **BIN 36**

9 p.m.-2 a.m.: Open bar, buffets throughout the restaurant, party favors, midnight champagne toast and coffee and donuts to take home. DJ Franco de Leon spins.

\$100; 339 N. Dearborn St. 312-755-9463.

#### BLUE 13

5-10 p.m.: Five-course dinner with wine pairings (\$100). Come after 10 p.m. for a package featuring appetizers, a cash bar and a champagne toast (\$30); 416 W. Ontario St. 312-787-1400.

#### **CAFE DES ARCHITECTES**

5 p.m.: Five-course dinner (\$89) featuring short rib tortellini, Madagascar shrimp salad, center-cut s tuna with glazed baby fennel, veal strip loin and white chocolate-coconut mousse: or a five-course surprise menu (\$130, \$160 with wine pairings) from executive chef Martial Noguier and executive pastry chef Suzanne Imaz; 20 E. Chestnut St., Sofitel Chicago Water Tower. 312-324-4000.

#### **CIBO MATTO**

6, 8 and 10 p.m. seatings: Chef Todd Stein prepares a five-course tasting menu including Brussels sprouts salad, truffled risotto, roasted scallops with foie gras and grilled rack of lamb with chestnut-leek puree. Third seating includes a midnight sparkling wine toast. The regular menu is also available. \$125. Wine pairings available for \$60; 201 N. State St. The Wit Hotel, 2nd Floor. 312-239-9500.

#### **CUSTOM HOUSE**

5:30 and 8:30 p.m. seatings: Four-course dinner. Late meal includes party favors, a midnight toast and live jazz. \$75-\$110; 500 S. Dearborn St. 312-523-0200.

#### **DELEECE GRILL PUB**

5 p.m.: Four-course dinner including bolete

mushroom soup, crisped lobster ravioli,

bacon-wrapped halibut and chocolate mousse

with bourbon-soaked cherries. Regular menu also available. \$50. Beer pairings available for \$15. Includes a midnight PBR toast. 3313 N. Clark

St. 773-348-3313.

#### **HUGO'S FROG BAR**

5 p.m.: Regular menu. Includes live music from Professor John, party favors and a midnight champagne toast. Prices vary; 1024 N. Rush St. 312-640-0999.

#### **KIT KAT LOUNGE AND SUPPER CLUB**

6, 8 and 10 p.m. seatings: Five-course meal featuring baby beet salad, shrimp cocktail, lobster risotto, wild mushroom tortellini and raspberrypistachio macaroons. Also includes live entertainment from Kit Kat Diva Madame X and a champagne toast. \$50-\$85; 3700 N. Halsted St. 773-525-1111.

#### **KNEW**

6:30 and 9 p.m. seatings: Four-course BYOB dinner and party favors. \$45; 2556 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-772-7721.

#### **LA TRATTORIA DEL MERLO**

5:30: Five-course dinner including glasses of prosecco and moscato. \$65; 1967 N. Halsted St. 312-951-8200.

#### **NORTH POND**

5:30: Seven-course menu. \$120. Wine pairings available for \$60; 2610 N. Cannon Drive. 773-477-5845.

#### **More NYE ideas**

Looking for more dinners and places to party? We've got 250-plus options in our New Year's Guide at metromix.com.

#### **OSTERIA VIA STATO**

5 p.m.: Three-course family style dinner featuring mini-veal meatballs, braised beef short ribs, grilled filet mignon and more. \$38.95. \$19.95 for antipasti only. \$24.95 for antipasti and pasta. Wine pairings available for \$15-\$50; 620 N. State St. 312-642-8450.

#### **PARK GRILL**

Three-course (\$50, 6 p.m. seating) or fivecourse meal (\$65, 9 p.m. seating). Includes wine pairings, \$10 glasses of Veuve Clicquot, live jazz music (9 p.m.), a midnight champagne toast and free trolley rides; 11 N. Michigan Ave. Millennium Park. 312-521-7275.

#### **PROVINCE**

5:30 p.m.: Specials available in addition to the regular menu. Prices

vary; 161 N. Jefferson St. 312-669-9900.

#### **SHAW'S CRAB HOUSE**

7 p.m.: Specials available in addition to the regular menu. Includes live music from the Kimberly Gordon Organ Quartet, party favors and a midnight sparkling wine toast. Prices vary; 21 E. Hubbard St. 312-527-2722.

#### **TAKASHI RESTAURANT**

Five-course (\$70, 5 p.m. seating) or eightcourse dinner (\$90, 8 p.m. seating); 1952 N. Damen Ave. 773-772-6170.

#### **WEST TOWN TAVERN**

5 p.m.: Specials available in addition to the regular menu, including winter vegetable risotto and pumpkin spice doughnut holes. Prices vary; 1329 W. Chicago Ave. 312-666-6175.

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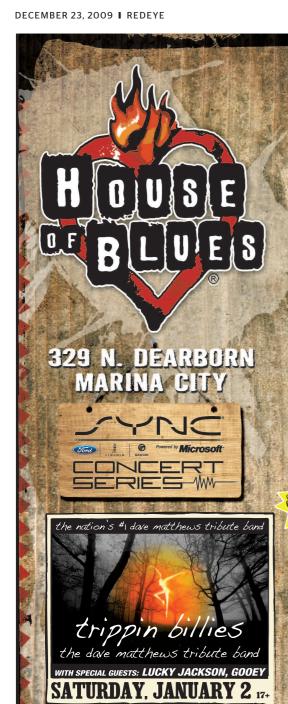
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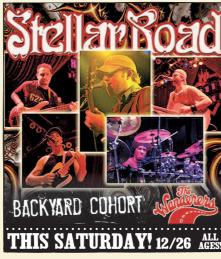
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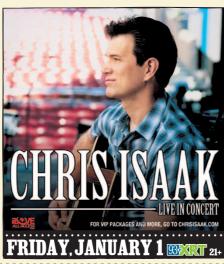


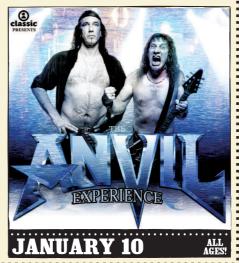
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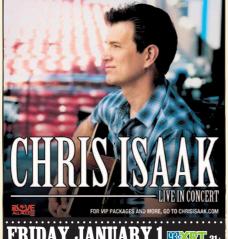
















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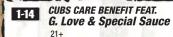


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1-21 The Expendables Iration, Passafire, Pour Habit, Roots Down Below - 17+

1-22 Sul Super Diamond

**Between The Buried And Me** Cynic, Devin Townsend, Scale The Summit - All Ages

1-24 Timbaland - LATE SHOW PRESENTS SHOCK VALUE II TOUR - 17+

1-25 Syesha Mercado

1-26 Behemoth Septicflesh, Lightning Swords of Death, Kommandant - All Ages

1-27 Everclear Clayton Senne, Edison - 17+

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We The Kings
Mayday Parade, A Rocket To the Moon,
There for Tomorrow - All Ages

1-29 Arch Enemy
Exodus, Arsis, Mutiny Within



Howie Day Serena Ryder - All Ages

**2-2** Utada DJ Mike Rizzo - 17+

2-4 Rebelution Soja, Zion-I - 17+

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## MILLER LITE SALUTES **OUR BARTENDER OF THE WEEK**





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Q: What's your favorite season in Chicago?

A: Fall! I love the crisp, clean air and the leaves are beautiful. And Chicago Falls last forever!

Q: What's your favorite college football team?

A: Irish!

Q: What's your favorite professional football team?

A: Born and raised in Seattle, I bleed flourescent green.

Q: What's your favorite beer?

A: Miller Lite





#### RANDOM ACTS OF GREATNESS

Giant "Oreo" cookies (\$2 each) at new Bucktown sweet shop Bake (2246 W. North Ave.). Vanilla buttercream gets sandwiched between two crisp chocolate cookies for a super-sweet treat that tastes remarkably like the real thing—or maybe even better.

The casual and convenient combo of a **BYOB dinner at Belly Shack and a beer at Green Eye Lounge**. At Belly Shack (1912 N. Western Ave.), we can't get enough of the uber-crisp tostones (\$5). At Green Eye (2403 W. Homer St.), go for a pint of Belhaven Scottish Stout (\$5.25).

The slew of **last-minute gift options** at Pilsen gift shop OMD (1419 W. 18th St.). Choose from kitschy T-shirts, locally made belt buckles, jewelry and assorted gag gifts. If you're still scrambling on Christmas Eve, they're open until 6 p.m.

The **mac 'n' cheese muffins** (\$8) at West Loop sports bar Market (1113 W. Randolph St.). How did they know the only thing that could make us love cheesy pasta more is if it were served inside a tasty muffin?

5 things we're

**Krank Shaft kolsch**, the latest beer from year-old local brewery Metropolitan, lives up to the high expectations set forth by Flywheel and Dynamo. Get it on tap at Simone's Bar (960 W. 18th St.).



#### Join the randomness!

What are you loving this week? Log onto **metromix.com** to send us your own Random Acts of Greatness. You might just spot your pick in a future issue.

#### **WEDNESDAY DEALS**

#### 10PIN BOWLING LOUNGE

Office Party Bowl. Get two hours of bowling, two drink tickets and an appetizer buffet during two party sessions (4 p.m. and 6 p.m.). \$25. RSVP recommended; 330 N. State St. 312-644-0300.

#### **ABERDEEN**

35 cent wings, \$3 house cocktails, \$15 Heineken and Amstel Light buckets; 1856 W. North Ave. 773-772-5500.

#### BECKETT'S PUBLIC HOUSE

Half-price bottles of wine, \$4 Carlsberg drafts; 3210 N. Lincoln Ave, 773-880-9620.

#### BLUE FROG BAR & GRILL

\$2.50 Bud Light bottles, half-price quesadillas (4 p.m.), karaoke 10 p.m.; No cover; 676 N. La Salle St. 312-943-8900.

#### **CAGNEY'S**

\$4 margaritas and Sam Adams drafts, half-price salads and sandwiches; 2142 N. Clybourn Ave. 773-857-1111.

#### THE CALL

\$3 off specialty martinis and cosmos; 1547 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 773-334-2525

#### CANS BAR AND CANTEEN

\$1 hot dogs and sliders, \$2 off big cans; 1640 N. Damen Ave. 773-227-2277.

#### **CINNERS**

\$2 Schlitz bottles, \$2 nachos, pop culture trivia 8 p.m.; 4757 N. Talman Ave. 773-654-1624.

#### CLUTCH

\$3 Heineken bottles, \$3 Beamish and Point Pale Ale drafts, \$3 potato skins; 459 N. Ogden Ave. 312-526-3450.

#### DEBONAIR SOCIAL CLUB

\$4 New York-style pizza slices, \$5 Kilo Kai cocktails, \$7 Belvedere cocktails. No cover; 1575 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-227-7990.

#### **DELILAH'S**

\$2 PBR longnecks and Old Crow shots; 2771 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-472-2771.

#### DIVISION STREET artinis BAR & GRILL

\$4 Jack Daniel's e. cocktails; 2525 W. Division St. 773-252-2233.

#### **FAT CAT**

\$3.95 turkey legs, \$6 Effen cocktails; 4840 N. Broadway. 773-506-3100.

#### FION WINE

\$3.50 craft and import bottles; 426 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-549-5400.

#### THE FIRKIN & PHEASANT

UK Pint Night. \$3 pints and \$12 pitchers of Boddington's, Newcastle, Fuller's London Pride, Guinness and Smithwick's, \$4 Stoli cocktails, \$5 Stoli martinis; 670 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-327-7040.

#### **FULTON LOUNGE**

Market Days. \$6 select cocktails, \$7 fish and chips; 955 W. Fulton Market. 312-942-9500.

#### **GLASCOTT'S**

\$3.50 Guinness, Harp,

Bass and Smithwick's pints; 2158 N. Halsted St. 773-281-1205.

#### THE GLOBE PUB

\$4 Carlsberg drafts, \$7 chicken curry; 1934 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-871-3757.

#### HALSTED HARP

\$2 domestic bottles, \$3 Blue Moon drafts, \$10 chicken sandwich with any draft; 2138 N. Halsted St. 773-348-3665.

#### HALSTED'S BAR & GRILL

\$2.50 domestic drafts, \$5.95 turkey burgers; 3441 N. Halsted St. 773-348-9696.

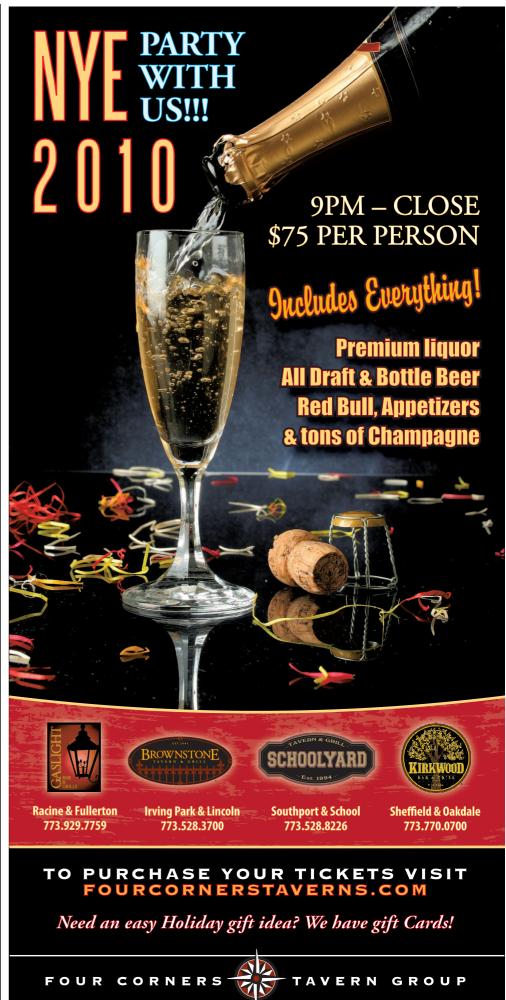
#### **HIGH DIVE**

\$1 mini-cheeseburgers, \$2.50 Bud Light bottles, \$4 Dewar's cocktails; 1938 W. Chicago Ave. 773-235-3483.

#### **HYDRATE**

\$4 Skyy cocktails, Bacardi bombs and Corona bottles. No cover; 3458 N. Halsted St. 773-975-9244.

»» page 25



24 REDEYE I WEDNESDAY

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WHERE ENTERTAINMENT KNOWS NO BOUNDS

#### NIGHTCRAWLERS

Photos of who we've seen on the scene



#### Naughty elves everywhere! Where you naughty or nice this year? If we caught you on

Where you naughty or nice this year? If we caught you on camera this weekend at the **Naughty Elves Pub Crawl** in Boystown, there's no question. Shirtless video game-playing, lingerie-wearing and beer-guzzling "elves" portrayed our favorite categories of naughtiness at this fete, which crawled to Roscoe's, Cocktail, Lucky Horseshoe, Minibar and Scarlet.

Log on to metromix.com for more photos of who we've seen on the scene.







#### «« page 23

#### MEZE

Half-price bottles of wine, \$3 tapas menu (4-7 p.m.); 205 N. Peoria St. 312-666-6625.

#### **OLD TOWN PUB**

\$3.50 Bud Light and Michelob Ultra bottles, \$5 you-call-it bombs, karaoke 9:30 p.m.; 1339 N. Wells St. 312-266-6789.

#### THE ORBIT ROOM

\$3 well cocktails, \$4 Stella Artois drafts, \$8 nachos; 2959 N. California Ave. 773-588-8540.

#### **PASHA**

Half-price bottles of wine; 802 W. Randolph St. 312-243-4442.

#### POAG MAHONE'S

\$3 vodka cocktails, \$4.50 hard iced teas, \$6 seasonal beer flights, half-price nachos (3 p.m.). Dine-in only; 333 S. Wells St. 312-566-9100.

#### **REBEL**

\$2 burgers and fries, \$12 domestic buckets; 3462 N. Clark St. 773-975-2010.

#### **ROCKS LINCOLN PARK**

\$5 select whiskeys and select 22-ounce beer bottles, \$5 burgers; 1301 W. Schubert Ave. 773-472-7738.

#### SHEFFIELD'S

\$1 off Chicago beers, half-price bottles and glasses of wine, \$15.95 brisket platters; 3258 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-281-4989.

#### SILVIE'S LOUNGE

\$4 Smirnoff cocktails, \$5 Grey Goose and Absolut cocktails, \$5 Red Bull vodkas and Jager bombs; 1902 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-871-6239.

#### STANLEY'S KITCHEN AND TAP

\$14.95 food-and-drink package. Includes pizza, pasta, Bud Light and house wine; 1970 N. Lincoln Ave. 312-642-0007.

#### **TANTRUM**

\$5 Don Julio margaritas; 1023 S. State St. 312-939-9160.

#### THE TIN LIZZIE

Half-price drinks; 2483 N. Clark St. 773-549-1132.

#### **TUMBAO BAR & GRILL** Half-price appetizers;

3213 W. Armitage Ave. 773-772-9800.

#### THE UNDERGROUND WONDER BAR

\$3 Old Style bottles; 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

#### **UNION PARK**

\$2 domestic drafts, \$4 Cuervo Silver shots; 228 S. Racine Ave. 312-243-9002.

#### VINES ON CLARK

\$1 Miller Lite bottles, \$3 Bacardi cocktails, half-price appetizers; 3554 N. Clark St. 773-327-8572.

#### WEATHER MARK TAVERN

\$2 domestic bottles, \$6 select sandwiches and salads; 1503 S. Michigan Ave. 312-588-0230.



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REDEYE I WEDNESDAY

## music





#### **Fiery Furnaces**

10 p.m. at Lincoln Hall Oak Park natives return.

#### **Local H**

9:30 p.m. at Double Door Rock, the right way.

#### **The Tossers**

8 p.m. Reggie's Rock Club It's going to get sloppy.



#### **Crystal Castles**

8:30 p.m. at Logan Square Auditorium A smoke machine can work wonders.

#### The Crystal Method

9 p.m. at Green Dolphin Street Seriously!





## Unicycle Loves You gives away its exclusive EP at a holiday show—but might ask for a body part in return

#### **By Matt Pais**

Anyone who delighted in the freewheeling psych-pop dance party that was Unicycle Loves You's 2008 debut will be thrilled to hear that they've got a new EP. The caveat: You only have one chance to get your hands on it.

At the local quartet's holiday show Saturday at Empty Bottle, Unicycle Loves You will give away a free EP of B-sides, a cover (Morrissey's "The More You Ignore Me, The Closer I Get") and unreleased demos, including "Magnetic Horses," which is surely among the catchiest pop nuggets the band has cooked up. After the show, the band will disappear to work on its sophomore full-length, which singer/guitarist Jim Carroll, 31, estimates will be released around August. He says the album will be darker, though "we're not getting rid of our sunshine yet."

#### Will you do anything holiday-related at the show besides the free gift? Dress up as elves perhaps?

I'm sure [bassist/vocalist Nicole Vitale] will dress up. She's always the fancy one. It would be funny if [keyboardist Adam Labrada] were to dye his beard white and be Santa, but I don't know if we're going to get him to do that. I think we're just going to be in pretty standard attire for the evening. Maybe a little fancy, but I don't think we're going to make anything too red and green.

#### The new EP is so exclusive. What else could you offer as a one-time-only opportunity?

I've always wanted to have slap bracelets, but now I'm seeing tons of bands with those so that's not original anymore. We have a couple tote bags we could silk screen. Just sitting around, there's like 15 of these black tote bags I don't know what to do with. Some fun things like that.

#### If all else fails you can auction a date with a band member.

[Laughs] Yeah, exactly. It would have to be Nicole I guess.

#### Why?

'Cause she's a girl. She'd probably have the best results. I'm sure it'd be the highest bids.

DECEMBER 23, 2009 ■ REDEYE

#### Think she'd be up for that?

Depends. If the price is right, she'd probably do it. If it's just a date.

#### What should people bring you in exchange for the free EP?

They gotta bring their dancing shoes. We want a fun, crazy night. [But] I guess dancing shoes isn't the right thing ...

#### Yeah, it sounds like you expect people to trade their shoes for music.

No, no, no. [Laughs] I'd love for them to give us their ears.

#### Something they're even less willing to part with.

[Laughs] Maybe just one ear. We'll give it back at the end of the night.

#### What's the worst gift you've ever gotten?

I don't wanna ... well, I guess my aunt won't be reading this. My aunt gave me an extra-large Jim Morrison T-shirt like two years ago. So that was awful.

#### What did you not like about that?

I don't really want to wear a Jim Morrison T-shirt that's an extra large. It was the size and the shirt. It was definitely for a 13-year-old in 1993.

#### What do you want to happen to the band in 2010?

I feel like in Chicago ... so many bands have been breaking up. So many bands that have reached this sort of Chicago plateau. We were just referring to this with my booking agent yesterday about this Chicago plateau of success that you get and you stay there. And if you don't stay there, you break up. Office broke up. 1900s broke up. Look what just happened to Scotland Yard Gospel Choir with their accident. All this crazy stuff. We would just like to break the plateau. There's a lot of good bands here; so many amazing, talented musicians just breaking up. Like, "Oh, that's horrible! Just keep goin'." The worst thing you can do is to quit.

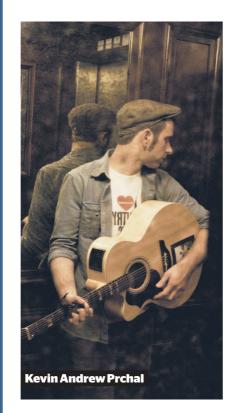
MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MUSIC AND MOVIES PRODUCER.

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#### **UNICYCLE LOVES YOU**

When: 10 p.m. Saturday Where: Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. Tickets: \$10, 773-276-3600

#### NOW HEAR THIS



#### **Kevin Andrew Prchal**



"Eat Shirt & Tie" (Self-released)



#### **By Matt Pais**

On this local singersongwriter's MySpace page, Kevin Andrew Prchal writes, "I find it very hard to measure the appropriate distance of when to

hold the door for someone, and wearing only one sock can completely throw off my balance." It's too bad Prchal's debut album doesn't showcase the same offbeat insight and sense of humor. The disc is a pretty but unexceptional array of gentle ballads and calm folk-pop tunes, which sometimes sounds like Toad the Wet Sprocket's Glen Phillips wandering into middle America. Low point: The simplistic "Peace Not War," on which Prchal repeatedly sings, "We want peace not war." There are sweet pleasures scattered thoughout the rest of the album, including the Jason Mraz-goes-Jon Brion "Soul Shaker" and a guest turn from Company of Thieves' Genevieve Schatz on "Another Fool (In Love With You)." Mostly the approach of "Eat Shirt & Tie" has less in common with its goofy title than with one of the last lines in Prchal's increasingly corny MySpace bio: "Though my arms and legs have come to grow, my imagination remains a parade of balloons and I follow it like a child to wherever it takes me next." In concert: 9 p.m. Wed. at Double Door







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28 music W

REDEYE ▮ WEDNESDAY

#### WEDNESDAY'S TOP 5 LOCAL CONCERTS

#### Avagami, Lord of the Yum Yum, Sequoia, Percolator

9:30 p.m. \$3-\$5. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

Covers For Cover II: Yoko Noge as Shippie Wallace, IRIS as The Breeders, Sally Timms as Nico, The Maybenauts as David Bowie, Aloha Lives does NOT play Tiny Bubbles, Double Life as The Cars, Dressed in Black as The Gossip, Slutter as KISS

8 p.m. \$12. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

#### Kick the Cat, The Renegades

8 p.m. \$7. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9494.

#### Puking Pearls, Louis and the Unit, Jon Drake and the Shakes

9 p.m. Free. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

#### Scott Sweeney, Kevin Prchal, Ron Robinson, Mia Leblon

9 p.m. \$5. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

#### TICKETBOOTH Your on-sale concert guide

#### ON SALE 10 A.M. WEDNESDAY

**John Forte,** Saturday, Feb. 13 (\$10, 21+) at Martyrs'.

#### Glaskow, The Clergymen, The Ivorys, Wednesday, Jan. 27 (\$7, 21+) at Martyrs'.

**Golem, Black Bear Combo,** Thursday, Feb. 11 (\$12-\$15, 21+) at Martyrs'.

#### Houseman and the Housewreckers, Crystal Gravy, Tuesday, Feb. 16

(\$12-\$15, 21+) at Martyrs'.

Tiffany Strietelmeier,
Sometimes Family,

**Sarah Holtschlag,** Saturday, Jan. 30 (\$8, 21+) at Martyrs'.

#### **Terrible Spaceship, Pimps of Joytime,** Saturday, March 6 (\$8, 2

Saturday, March 6 (\$8, 21+) at Martyrs'.

#### ON SALE NOON WEDNESDAY

**Findlay Brown,** Monday, Jan. 25 (\$10-\$12, 21+) at Schubas.

**Basia Bulat,** Tuesday, Feb. 23 (\$10, 21+) at Schubas.

**Califone,** Tuesday, March 9, Tuesday, March 10 (\$15-\$18, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

#### **Efterklang, Balmorhea,** Monday, March 8 (\$12, 21+)

at Lincoln Hall.

**El Perro Del Mar, Taken by Trees,** Monday, Feb. 22 (\$15, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

The Ike Reilly Assassination, Monday, Jan. 18, Feb. 1, Feb. 15, March 1 (\$10, 21+) at Schubas.

**Lookbook**, Wednesday, Feb. 24 (\$8, 21+) at Schubas.

#### Poi Dog Pondering,

Saturday, Jan. 2 (\$25, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

The Ruby Suns, Toro Y Moi, Wednesday, March 31 (\$10. 21+) at Schubas.

#### Woods, Real Estate,

Tuesday, March 16 (\$12, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

#### ON SALE 9 A.M. SATURDAY

**Webb Wilder,** Saturday, Feb. 6 (\$15, 21+) at FitzGerald's.

#### ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

**Mahjongg,** Saturday, Feb. 13 (\$10, all ages) at Subterranean.

#### **ON SALE NOW**

Alesana, A Skylit Drive, Of Mice and Men, The Word Alive, We Came as Romans, Sunday, Feb. 21 (\$14-\$16, all ages) at Metro.

Copeland, I Can Make a Mess Like Nobody's Business, Person L, Deas Veil, Sunday, March 14 (\$16, all ages) at Metro.

**Lotus,** Sunday, Feb. 21 (\$22.50, all ages), Monday, Feb. 22 (\$22.50, 18+) at Schubas.

**Dan Navarro,** Friday, Feb. 5 (\$20, 21+) at Schubas. **Nneka,** Sunday, Feb. 14 (\$12-\$15, 21+) at Double Door.

#### People Under the Stairs, Rapper Big Pooh, Thursday, Feb. 18 (\$13-\$15, 17+) at Subterranean.

Sundowner, The Reaganomics, Sass Dragons, Saturday, Jan. 30 (\$10, 17+) at Beat Kitchen.

**Transatlantic,** Tuesday, April 20 (\$45, all ages) at Park West.



## Looking for a party worth heading out for on New Year's Eve? Then we have the party for you!

Hyatt Regency Chicago and JACK-FM are hosting the best New Year's Eve celebration in the city and you're invited.

Starting at  $\$99^*$  Limited number of tickets available at this price (Price will increase without notice as event approaches.)

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Call 312-239-4536 or visit **IKnowJack.com** for more information.

\*Tax not included. Full prepayment necessary to secure reservations. Non-refundable. Subject to availability. Hotel retains the right to change schedule/rates. Must be 21 years of age or older to book packages and attend party. Must show valid identification.

DECEMBER 23, 2009 I REDEYE











- JANUARY 15TH - CRASH KINGS

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#### FIVE TO SEE

#### George Gershwin Alone

Actor and pianist Hershey Felder ("Monsieur Chopin") dramatizes the life and work of the legendary American composer. Opens Wednesday. Through Dec. 30. \$55-\$60. Drury Lane Theatre at Water Tower Place, 175 E. Chestnut St. 312-642-2000.

#### **Jersey Boys**

Get tickets before the curtain closes on the Tony Award-winning musical Jan. 10. Next show: Wednesday. \$30-\$110. LaSalle Bank Theatre, 18 W. Monroe St. 800-775-2000.

#### Mother Superior's Ho-Ho-Holy Night

A comedy by Vicki Quade ("Late Nite Catechism") in which a jovial nun details connections between Santa Claus and the birth of Jesus. Next show: Wednesday. Through Jan. 3. \$30. Royal George Theatre Center, 1641 N. Halsted St. 312-988-9000.

#### **The Pillowman**

Martin McDonagh's dark comedy portrays a writer and his mentally impaired brother, who become suspects when local murders mirror the writer's horror stories. Next show: Saturday. Through Feb. 6. \$22-\$30. Redtwist Theatre, 1044 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 773-728-7529.

#### The Nutcracker

The Joffrey Ballet of Chicago and the Chicago Sinfonietta Orchestra perform Tchaikovsky's classic Christmas ballet. Next show: Wednesday. Through Sunday. \$25-\$100. Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy. 800-745-3000.

## 10 in 2010

Best bets for local theater in the first half of the New Year

#### **By Rebecca Palmore**

For local theater, December was quite a month. Second City hosted a star-studded 50th anniversary party. Tracy Letts reemerged on stage at Steppenwolf after being showered with prizes for his play, "August: Osage County." Nathan Lane and Bebe Neuwirth tangoed in a pre-Broadway engagement of the musical, "The Addams Family." How much better can it get, you ask? How about sketch comedy, murder and men in tights?

#### The Chicago Sketch Comedy Festival

Theatre Building Chicago, 1225 W. Belmont Ave. 773-327-5252

On the heels of Second City's 50th anniversary celebration comes a less celeb-studded, more accessible gathering of 110-plus sketch comedy groups from Chicago and beyond over two weekends. Jan. 7-17. \$12.50; \$150 for all-festival pass.

#### Killer Joe

Profiles Theatre, 4147 N. Broadway. 773-549-1815

Veteran Steppenwolf ensemble member Rick Snyder directs the first play written by Tracy Letts. It's a dark story about a greedy Texas family bent on murdering the family matriarch in order to cash in on her insurance, but their plan falls apart when contract killer Joe Cooper pays a visit to their trailer. Jan. 8-Feb. 28. \$25-\$35.

#### Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph Drive. 312-334-7777

Dance and comedy are great—and rare—partners in crime, so we're thrilled for the return of these men in tights. The professional ensemble of dudes—casually called the Trocks—is not New York's answer to our belly-baring, Bulls-loving Matadors. Instead, they deliver classic, contemporary ballet and modern dance with a comic twist. Jan. 27. \$45-\$75.

#### **August: Osage County**

Cadillac Palace Theatre, 151 W. Randolph St. 800-775-2000

If you missed Tracy Letts' lauded play at Steppenwolf in 2007, here's your second chance. The national touring production, which stars Academy Award-winning actor Estelle Parsons, returns to Chicago for a muchanticipated—albeit short—stopover. Tony Award winner Anna D. Shapiro directs. Feb. 2-14. \$27.50-\$77.50.



#### The Long Red Road

Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn St. 312-443-3800

Philip Seymour Hoffman (left) finally shows his stage-directing

chops to Chicago with this worldpremiere drama by Brett C. Leonard, in which a desperate man confronts his dark past after a visitor arrives on the South Dakota reservation where he struggles—and fails—to drink away his pain. Feb. 13-March 14. \$27-\$45.



#### Trust

Lookingglass Theatre, 821 N. Michigan Ave. 312-337-0665

David Schwimmer directs this drama he co-wrote with Andy Bellin, about a sexual predator who threatens to unravel a family. Expect technical extras like video projection and live chat, plus a film version due in 2011 starring Clive Owen and Catherine Keener, which Schwimmer also directs. March 3-May 9. \$32-\$62.

#### The Shipment

Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave. 312-397-4010

Korean-American playwright Young Jean Lee explores the black experience in her new play, in which five actors dig into the politics of African-American identity through song, dance, jokes and storytelling. March 26-28. \$10-\$25.

#### In the Blood

UIC Theatre, 1044 W. Harrison St. 312-996-2939.

The prolific and daring playwright Suzan-Lori Parks ("365 Days/365 Plays") adapts Nathaniel Hawthorne's seminal tale, "The Scarlet Letter," with a few twists. To wit: A homeless AfricanAmerican mother of five, each child from a different father, struggles with societal judgment and the temptations of her white girlfriend and a welfare worker. April 9-18. \$11-\$16.

**'Les Ballets Trockadero** 

#### Sizwe Banzi is Dead

Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave. 773-753-4472

Politics, in general, and apartheid, in particular, are at the heart of South African writer Athol Fugard's many works ("'Master Harold'... and the Boys"; "Tsotsi"). In his 1972 surrealist drama, co-written by two actors in the original production, a man pretends to be dead to avoid racially enforced banishment to a ghetto. May 13-June 13. \$32-\$56.

#### Misery

Redtwist Theatre, 1044 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 773-728-7529

Stephen King's chilling tale, a testament to the power of both celebrity and obsession, gets reworked for the stage in Simon Moore's adaptation. The story portrays the hellish ordeal between romance novelist Paul Sheldon and his "No. 1 fan," Annie. June 5-July 3. \$22-\$30.

REBECCA PALMORE IS THE METROMIX THEATER PRODUCER. RKPALMORE@TRIBUNE.COM

DECEMBER 23, 2009 ▮ REDEYE

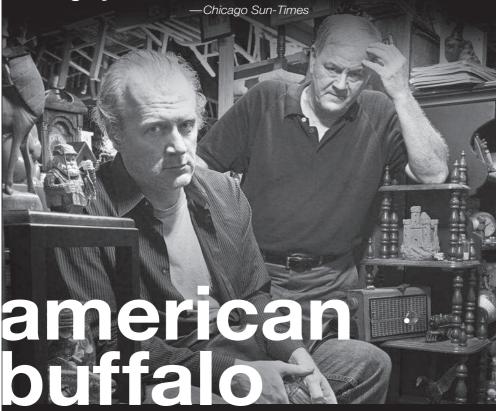
#### PERFORMANCES JUST ADDED!

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—Daily Herald

"Highly Recommended! A bravura cast!"



written by **David Mamet** 

directed by ensemble member **Amy Morton** 

featuring ensemble members Francis Guinan and

Tracy Letts with Patrick Andrews

American Buffalo Wine Tasting 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy varietals from Vinci's wine cellar paired with dishes like risotto and orzo salad from their gourmet kitchen in Steppenwolf's Balcony Lounge before the show. Tickets only \$66 for tasting & the show – one of the best deals in town! Please use code 5822 when ordering.

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REDEYE I WEDNESDAY



#### By Matt Pais METROMIX

If it were mandatory for critics to physically demonstrate their feelings about a movie, I would have spent much of 2009 either giving wild applause or hurling any nearby object/large popcorn/usher at the screen. Why? It was quite a good year for intelligent, interesting, potentially funny movies. It was also a substantial year for terrible, horrible, head-smackingly awful movies. Read on, and e-mail me at mpais@tribune.com to voice your picks for the year's best and worst.

MATTPAIS IS METRONIX MOVIES PRODUCER.

#### A Serious Man

Joel and Ethan Coen's second knockout this decade (including "No Country for Old Men") has a wickedly hilarious take on incredibly serious ideas about life and faith. The film reflects on the filmmakers' own Jewish upbringing in Minnesota and wonders why we keep asking questions to religious and community leaders who give us no answers. "Life's a doozy," the movie seems to say with more than a little sense of humanity's ultimate helplessness. "May as well laugh about it."



#### Where the Wild Things Are

I just love this movie. Spike Jonze expanded Maurice Sendak's classic without adding too much plot. He trusted a great first-timer (Max Records) with the lead role. He worked overtime to get the big, playful, ferocious Wild Things he wanted. The result: An amazing achievement that could have been a disaster.



#### 2009's 10 WORST MOVIES



#### Hannah Montana: The Movie

This film played like tricking kids into paying \$10 for a chocolate bar that tastes like dirt and comes with a CD of terrible, terrible music.



#### My Life in Ruins

Nia Vardalos: You cannot act. You are not funny. You are not an appealing romantic lead. Even Meryl Streep couldn't save a comedy this rusty from breaking down.



#### 21 and a Wakeup

This film botches it all to the point of turning the drama and sorrow of the Vietnam War into a side-splitting cultmovie-in-the-making, packed with the worst acting this side of your local auto dealership commercials.



#### **The Burning Plain**

All pain and no purpose makes writerdirector Guillermo Arriaga a filmmaker who needs a hug. That and a lesson about why it's wrong to try strangling sympathy out of viewers.



#### **All About Steve**

If a character has an undiagnosed disability, say so. Don't turn her into a stalker and suggest that all of her seemingly uncontrollable behavior is a sign of free-spirited independence.

DECEMBER 23, 2009 I REDEYE



#### **The Hurt Locker**

At last, a movie about being a soldier in Iraq that feels honest. Tough and scary too. Director Kathryn Bigelow puts you inside the head of bomb specialist Sergeant William James, a role character actor Jeremy Renner absolutely nails.



**Tulpan**A guarantee: This Kazakh drama will shake up your perspective.

#### **Crazy Heart**

Last year "The Wrestler" showed how much depth can be drawn from a seemingly clichéd story of lost fame and the mildest of redemptions. "Crazy Heart" does it again with an Oscar-caliber turn from Jeff Bridges as an aging country music star whose sturdiest long-term relationship is with the bottle.







#### **Mary and Max**

"Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs." "Up." "Coraline." This was a better-than-usual year for animation. The best effort was this tiny festival favorite from writerdirector Adam Elliot.

#### **An Education**

Newcomer Carey Mulligan is radiant as 16-year-old Jenny in this deeply charming film set in 1961 London. Peter Sarsgaard expertly balances charisma and creepiness as Jenny's older boyfriend.



#### In the Loop

The kind of quick-witted cleverness found in practically every second of the delicious political satire "In the Loop" rarely turns up on the big screen. The laughs are as relentless as the script is wonderfully vicious.



#### The Girlfriend Experience

Real-life adult film star Sasha Grey plays an escort who also provides a certain calculated emotional intimacy for anyone who ponies up the \$2,000/hour in director Steven Soderbergh's film.



#### **Extract**

Mike Judge's blissfully dry script fires so quickly and directly that it gives the year's funniest movie a wealth of quotable one-liners. Jason Bateman, Kristen Wiig, Mila Kunis, Ben Affleck and J.K. Simmons are perfect.



#### **Old Dogs**

Can Robin Williams and John Travolta look at themselves in the mirror after starring in a comedy this horrendous? Can you after buying a ticket?



#### **Gigantic**

Write down 20 quirky things that have nothing to do with each other on a piece of paper. Then make a movie about that. Actually, no, don't.



#### The Marc Pease Experience

Recommended for people who love movies where they hate every character—yet every character acts as if you love them.



The Final Destination

Written by a photocopier and acted by an unemployment line.



**Next Day Air** Stereotypes, unite!

## We're baaaack!



fast paised

mpais @tribune.com

**ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: SQUEAKQUEL** 

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)

Show times change daily &

AMC Select - The best specialty films

Avatar 3D (PG-13) 11:30.3:15.7:00.10:45

Brothers (R) 11:20.2:10.5:00.8:00.10:40

2828 North Clark St., Chicago

■ Invictus (PG-13) 10:15.1:15.4:20.7:50.10:50

■ Twilight: Moon (PG-13) 11:45.2:45.7:10.10:10

■ The Blind Side (PG-13) 10:30,1:30,4:30,7:20,10:15

Avatar (PG-13) 12:30.4:15.7:45.11:15

AMC Select Up in the Air (B) 11:00.1:40.5:15.8:05.11:00

■ Did You Hear (PG-13) 10:45.1:45.4:45.7:30.10:30

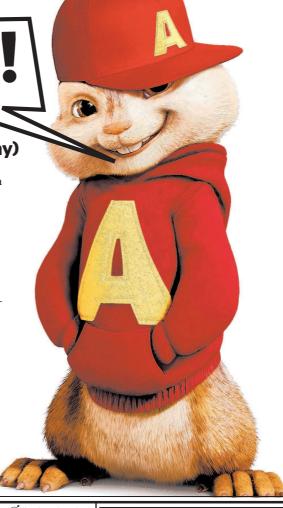


#### (And we wish the Chipmunks would stay away)

With Dave (Jason Lee) laid up in a Paris hospital, CGI pests Alvin, Simon and Theodore shack up with Dave's shy relative Toby (Zachary Levi of "Chuck," awful). The musical superstar chipmunks—sigh—enroll in high school where girls love them and jocks feel threatened by them. As the critters try to win \$25,000 to save the school's music department, a disgraced record exec (David Cross) uses singing female chipmunks the Chipettes to try to reclaim his success.

The buzz: Hearing Alvin cackle "We're baaaaack!" is one of the year's scariest moments, and just typing the word "squeakquel" makes my soul tear up a little. The follow-up to the horrible 2007 comedy arrives after most "10 Worst of 2009" lists are published, which can't be a coincidence.

**The verdict:** There's never a chipmunk-eating bear around when you need one. Or perhaps I'm missing what's entertaining about annoying characters with excruciating voices squealing versions of pop songs like the Kinks' "You Really Got Me." Kids will learn that being obnoxious is acceptable and adults whose brains somehow remain unmelted will only be confused about why, apropos of nothing, the "Squeakquel" keeps making allusions to classic films such as "Silence of the Lambs" and "Taxi Driver."



#### **ALSO OUT WEDNESDAY**

#### Police, Adjective A Romanian cop (Dragos

Bucur) follows leads for a drug-related case. Then he follows them some more. Then to change it up a bit, he follows a little bit more. This Cannes Festival hit eventually makes a point about the oppression of language and the strict procedure of lawenforcement, as if it isn't obvious that officers need to abide the law even if there's a chance of it changing. Director Corneliu Porumboiu always seems like he's about to get to something provocative and litters the film with some dry humor. Mostly, though, zzzzzzzz.



#### **MORE TO COME!**

**CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)** 

■ Squeakquel (PG) ★ 12:20,1:50,2:20,2:50,4:20,4:50,5:20,6:50,7:20,9:10,9:40 ■ Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ 12:00,3:30,7:00,10:30

■ Avatar 50 (FG-13) ★ 12:00,330,730,700,10:30
■ Avatar (FG-13) ★ 3:00,630,10:00
■ Did You Hear (FG-13) ★ 2:00,4:40,7:10,10:10
■ Invictus (FG-13) ★ 12:15,3:20,6:20,9:30
■ Princess-Frog (G) ★ 12:10,1:40,2:40,4:10,5:10,6:40,7:30,9:00,9:50
■ Armored (FG-13) 1:2:30,2:45,5:15,8:00,10:35
■ Ninja Assassin (R) 2:15,4:45,7:50,10:45
■ The Blind Side (FG-13) 1:10,4:15,7:15,10:20
■ Twillight: Moon (FG-13) 7:40,10:40

Up in the Air (R) ★ 12:45,1:30,2:00,3:40,4:20,5:10,6:40,7:20,

8:00,9:40,10:10,11:00 Squeakquel (PG) \* 12:20,2:40,5:00,7:20,9:50 Avatar 3D (PG-13) \* 12:00,12:30,2:30,3:00,3:30,4:00,6:00,6:30, 7:00,7:30,9:30,10:00,10:30

 $\begin{array}{lll} 7:00,7:30,9:30,10:00,10:30\\ \hline \textbf{Did You Hear} (PG-13) & 2:50,5:20,8:15,10:50\\ \hline \textbf{Young Victoria} (PG) & 1:50,4:30,7:40,10:20\\ \hline \textbf{Invictus} (PG-13) & 1:40,4:40,7:45,10:45\\ \hline \textbf{Me and Orson} (PG-13) & 2:10,4:50,7:50,10:40\\ \hline \textbf{Princess-Frog} (G) & 1:20,4:15,6:50,5:10\\ \hline \textbf{The Blind Side} (PG-13) 12:10,1:00,3:20,4:10,6:20,7:15,9:20,10:15\\ \hline \textbf{C'mas Carol 3D} (PG) 1:10,3:50,6:15,9:00\\ \hline \end{array}$ 

VIP Premium 21+

■ Up in the Air (R) ★ VIP Premium 21+ 2:00,5:10,8:00,11:00 ■ Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ VIP Premium 21+ 12:00,3:30,7:00,10:30

OAK PARK

■ Twilight: Moon (PG-13) 7:40,10:40 ■ 2012 (PG-13) 3:15,6:45,10:05 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 2:10,5:00,7:45,10:25

Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago

(800) 326-3264 #1644

SHOWPLACE ICON

(312) 564-2104

Don't miss Thursday's RedEye for Matt's reviews of "Sherlock Holmes (above)," "Crazy Heart," "It's Complicated" and "A Single Man." MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER

Handicapped Access ◆ Digital Sound ✓ Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes 🦪 Hearing - Impaired PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. inappropriate for children under 13

#### **MUSIC BOX**

3733 N. Southport, Chicago (773) 871-6604

- It's-Wonderful (NR) 3:35,9:45
- White Christmas (NR) 12:30,6:40
- Police, Adject. (NR) 2:00,4:30,7:00,9:30

#### PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)

1608 N Wells Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily

- AMC Select The Road (B) 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00
- AMC Select Boondock II (R) 4:40 P.M.
- AMC Select The Messenger (R) 11:55,5:00
- AMC Select New York (R) 2:30 P.M
- AMC Select The Hurt Locker (R) 11:00,1:50,7:20
  - **3 Idiots** (NB) 11:20 3:00 6:45

#### **RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)**

888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Squeakquel (PG) 10:25.1:05.3:45.6:20.9:00 ■ AMC Select Up in the Air (R) 10:15,11:15,1:10,2:10,4:05,5:05
- 6:10,7:10,8:10,10:15
- Avatar (PG-13) 12:00,4:00,8:00 4:10.5:10.7:00.8:05.9:55.10:50
- AMC Select **The Road** (R) 10:55,1:45,4:30,7:20,10:20 ■ AMC Select Young Victoria (PG) 10:20,11:20,1:15,2:15,
- Did You Hear (PG-13) 10:40,11:40,1:30,2:30,4:20,5:20,7:15,8:15,10:10 ■ Avatar 3D (PG-13) 10:00,10:45,11:30,2:00,2:45,3:30,6:00,6:45
- 7:30,10:00,10:45 ■ Princess-Frog (G) 10:10,12:40,3:20,6:05,8:50
- Princess-Frog (G) 11:00.1:40.4:15.7:05.9:50
- Invictus (PG-13) 10:50 11:50 2:05 3:05 5:25 6:25 8:45 9:45
- Armored (PG-13) 11:05.1:20.3:40.9:10
- Brothers (R) 11:25.2:25.5:15.7:55.10:35
- Twilight: Moon (PG-13) 11:10,2:20,5:30,8:30
- AMC Select Precious: Novel (R) 10:05.1:00.3:45.6:30.9:20
- The Blind Side (PG-13) 10:30.1:35.4:45.7:40.10:40

#### **CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)**

(800) 326-3264 #2309

- Up in the Air(R) ★ 12:40.2:10.3:40.5:00.6:40.7:40.9:20.10:15
- Squeakquel (PG) ★ 12:10,1:30,2:30,3:50,4:50,6:10,7:20,9:40
- Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ 12:00,1:00,3:30,4:30,7:00,8:10,10:30 ■ Avatar (PG-13) ★ 3:00,6:30,10:00
- Did You Hear (PG-13) ★ 2:00,7:50,10:25
- The Road (R) ★ 1:10.4:00.6:45.9:30
- Invictus (PG-13) ★ 12:20,1:20,3:20,4:15,6:20,7:45,9:55,10:35
- Princess-Frog (G) ★ 12:15,1:50,2:40,4:20,5:10,6:50,7:30,9:10,9:50 Armored (PG-13) 12:50.3:15.6:05.8:20.10:40
- Brothers (R) 6:15.9:15
- The Blind Side (PG-13) 1:15 4:10 7:10 10:05
- Twilight: Moon (PG-13) 12:45.3:45.6:55.10:10
- 2012 (PG-13) 9:00 P.M
- Christmas Carol (PG) 12:30:3:10 Precious: Novel (R) 1:40.7:15.9:45

#### WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES) 1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago

(800) 326-3264 #1641

- Un in the Air(B) ★ 2:00.2:30.4:50.5:20.7:40.8:10.10:20.10:45
- Squeakquel (PG) ★ 12:20.2:40.5:00.7:20.9:40
- Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ 12:00,3:30,7:00,10:30 ■ Avatar (PG-13) ★ 3:00,6:30,10:00
- Did You Hear (PG-13) ★ 1:20,4:15.7:10.9:50
- Invictus (PG-13) ★ 12:10,1:00,3:20,4:00,6:20,7:15,9:30,10:15
- Brothers (R) 12:50,3:40,6:40,9:20 ■ The Blind Side (PG-13) 12:40.3:50.6:50.9:45
- Twilight: Moon (PG-13) 1:30.4:30.7:30.10:40

#### SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES) E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave (800) 326-3264 #1646

- Squeakquel (PG) ★ 12:10,1:50,2:20,2:50,4:20,4:50,5:20,6:50
- 7:20,7:50,9:10,9:40,10:10
- Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ 12:00,3:30,7:00,10:30
- Avatar (PG-13) ★ 3:00 6:30 10:00 ■ Did You Hear (PG-13) ★ 2:00,4:40,7:30,10:45
- Invictus (PG-13) ★ 1:00,3:20,4:00,6:20,7:10,9:30,10:15

- Princess-Frog (G) ★ 1:40,4:10,6:40,9:00 Armored (PG-13) 12:30,2:40,5:15,8:00,10:35
- The Blind Side (PG-13) 1:10,4:15,7:15,10:20 ■ Twilight: Moon (PG-13) 1:30.4:30.7:40.10:40
- 2012 (PG-13) 3:15.6:45.10:05 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 2:10,5:00,7:45,10:25

#### 630-444-FILM #560 ■Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ 12:00,12:45,3:10,4:00,6:20,7:15,9:30,10:30

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

■ Did You Hear (PG-13) \* 12:00,12:45,5:05,7:25,9:45 ■ Did You Hear (PG-13) \* 12:25,2:45,5:05,7:25,9:45 ■ Princess-Frog (G) \* 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45,9:00 ■ The Blind Side (PG-13) 1:00,4:05,6:50,9:35 ■ Squeakquel (PG) \* 11:00,1:05,3:10,5:15,7:20,9:25 ■ Up in the Air (R) \* 12:00,2:25,4:50,7:15,9:40

#### **EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)**

1715 MAPLE AVE (847)492-0123 &

■ Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ 11:45,3:20,7:00,10:40

#### ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 10:50,1:35,4:00,6:30,9:00 LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

- Young Victoria (PG) 1:40,2:30,4:30,6:05,7:20,8:45,10:00
- Fantastic Fox (PG) 1:50,4:50,7:15,9:30 Broken Embraces (R) 1:00.2:05.4:00.5:00.7:00.8:30.9:50
- A Serious Man (R) 2:00.4:45.7:30.10:05
- An Education (PG-13) 1:45,4:20,7:00,9:45

#### **CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)** 2600 N. Western Ave (800) 326-3264 #1642

- Squeakquel (PG) ★ 12:45,1:30,2:00,3:10,3:50,4:40,5:30,6:10 7:20,8:00,8:30,9:45,10:45
- Avatar 3D (PG-13) ★ 12:00 2:20 3:30 6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30 ■ Avatar (PG-13) ★ 3:00.6:30.10:00
- Princess-Frog (G) ★ (Closed caption) 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:30,9:50 ■ Brothers (R) 1:50,4:50,7:40,10:50
- Armored (PG-13) 1:20,4:00,6:40,8:50,11:00
- The Blind Side (PG-13) 12:20.3:20.6:20.9:20 ■ Planet 51 (PG) 12:30.2:50.5:20.7:50.10:10
- Twiliaht: Moon (PG-13) 1:10.4:10.7:10.10:20
- 2012 (PG-13) 10:20 P.M.
- Christmas Carol (PG) 1:40,4:20,6:50,9:10
- Precious: Novel (R) 2:30,5:00,8:15,10:40

#### **DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)** 4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago (773) 784-0893

- Up in the Air (R) ★ 12:20,2:40,5:00,7:20,9:45
- Precious: Novel (R) 12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00
- The Hurt Locker (B) 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:40 ■ Invictus (PG-13) ★ 2:10.4:50.7:30.10:10

#### FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN

#### Show times change daily

- AMC Select The best specialty films Squeakquel (PG) 10:30 11:50 1:00 2:10 3:20 4:30 5:45 7:10 8:15 9:30 10:3
- Avatar (PG-13) 10:00 11:40 1:30 3:15 5:10 7:00 8:40 10:20 ■ Did You Hear (PG-13) 11:10,1:45,4:20,7:15,9:55
- **Princess-Frog** (G) 10:10,11:30,12:30,1:50,2:50,4:15,5:20,7:08 8:00 9:25 10:25 ■ **Invictus** (PG-13) 10:15,1:10,4:00,6:50,9:50
- Armored (PG-13) 10:05,12:20,2:30,4:45,7:20,9:40 Ninja Assassin (R) 10:25,12:50,3:10,5:30.7:50.10:15 ■ Planet 51 (PG) 11:45,2:00,4:10
- Twilight: Moon (PG-13) 10:25,3:45,9:15 ■ AMC Select **Precious: Novel** (R) 1:15,6:40
- The Blind Side (PG-13) 10:50,1:40,4:25,7:25,10:10 ■ 2012 (PG-13) 6:20.9:45 Christmas Carol (PG) 10:20,12:40,3:00,5:15,7:45,10:00

#### **GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER** 164 State Stree 312-846-2800

- College (NR) 6:00 P.M.
- Cops (NR) Into Temptation (R) 6:00,8:00 ■ What's (NR) 7:45 P.M.
- **LOGAN THEATRE** 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago (773) 252-0628
- **2012** (PG-13) 2:15,5:25,8:15 Planet 51 (PG) 2:10,4:15,6:20,8:30
- Old Dogs (PG) 2:00.4:05.6:10.8:20
- Christmas Carol (PG) 2:05,4:15,6:20,8:30

DECEMBER 23, 2009 ▮ REDEYE



## **Budget wines** for the holidays

Don't forget to think about the wine when making plans for your Christmas dinner.

Understandably, you've been preoccupied with last-minute gifts and holiday preparations and you haven't had time to worry about holiday wines. It's always nice to patronize a specialty wine store, but perhaps making that trip is not a possibility with your long to-do list.

Chances are you will need to go to a grocery store in the next couple of days to pick up a few things, and the good news is that many of them feature a well-stocked wine department. Whether you're serving up a Christmas goose, holiday ham or festive prime rib, these wines won't break your budget. And, of course, they taste good as well. REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR ALPANA SINGH IS DIRECTOR OF WINE AND SPIRITS FOR LETTUCE ENTERTAIN YOU ENTERPRISES AND THE HOST OF "CHECK, PLEASE!" ON WITW.

#### WANT MORE?

Read Alpana's musings on all things wine at whatwould alpanadrink. blogspot.com.

#### Four worth trying



Sofia Blanc de Blanc sparkling wine

California, \$19

This delightful, pleasant sparkler adds to the celebratory spirit of the holidays. Enjoy it as a reception wine or sip on it while opening gifts. It also comes packaged in a pink cellophane wrapper, which makes it a perfect hostess present or lastminute gift.



Nobilo sauvignon blanc New Zealand, \$11

A zippy and citrus-fruitflavored white that pairs well with appetizers and seafood entrees. Flavors are dry yet fruity and will appeal to fans of pinot grigio.



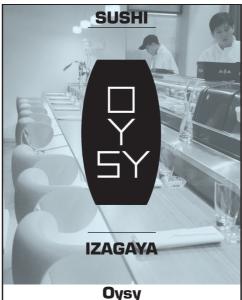
Chalone pinot noir Monterey County, \$13

A good choice if you prefer a lighter-style red that is not too dry or heavy in structure. Flavors of black cherries and raspberries make it a good match for ham, goose, duck or turkey.

**Alamos** malbec Argentina, \$12

ALAMOS

A rich, fullbodied red that offers a lot of bang for the buck. Wellsuited to those who enjoy a heavier red; dark blackberry flavors and rich structure pair well with heartier red meat dishes such as lamb or prime rib.



Pronounced Oh-EE-She, means delicious

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#### **TUESDAY'S SOLUTIONS**

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#### **ACROSS**

- Barbie or Ken
- Of times past
- Leave out Opera solo
- Tinkerbell, e. g. Prefix for legal or medic 15
- "Phooey!"
- Of the waves
- Be prepared
- 20 Lazybones
- Flying high

- 24 Long time 25 Perceive
- 26 Native New Zealander 29 Refuse entry to
- 30 Russian rulers of old and crafts
- Harness piece
- 36 Save 37 Portable bed
- 38 Account examiner
- 40 Go quickly
- 41 Make \_; atone 43 Lend a hand
- 44 Take care of
- 45 Rowed
- 46 Modern bank machine: abbr. 47 Wuss 48 Come together
- 50 Little lie 51 Many
- Somber service
- 54 Somber servi 58 Experts 59 Gets close to
- 61 Cab 62 "\_ Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth"
- 63 Strong winds
- 64 LSD, to users
- 65 Collections 66 Hollow
- 67 Prohibition agent Eliot \_

#### **DOWN**

- lune honorees
- Grad student's test, perhaps
- Italy's dollar, prior to 2002 Cavalrymen with spears

52

20

26 27 28

42

48

- Lion's hideout "The butler \_ it" Slate clearer
- Panty hose material
- 10 Persecute 11 African nation
- Persia, today 13 Orange drink
- Outdoor pond fish
- 23 Showy flower
- Quench
- 26 Chinese peninsula
- 39 Actor Daly 42 Formidable foe

15

18

49

59

63

66

38 Deadly viper 44 Lhasa resident

27 Fragrance

Pains

32 Spoils 33 Run-down

28 Aquatic mammal 29 Make an offer

35 School transport

36 Singer Stewart

43

50

46 Shining47 Sermon topic49 Stove

67

- 50 Irritable
- 51 Mineral springs 52 \_ Stanley Gardner 53 Electrical unit 54 Worry

- 55 Run quickly 56 WWII power
- Covers
- 60 Matterhorn





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40 REDEYE I WEDNESDAY

## red hot



#### The 'Lost' supper

"Top Chef" judge Gail Simmons (left) has dined with some famous culinary stars, but if she could serve a

meal to anyone, she would choose fictional TV stars. "Hypothetically, I would love to cook dinner for the survivors of Oceanic Flight 815, from 'Lost.' I bet they could really use a good meal by this point," Simmons told the Miami New Times, which asked Simmons for whom she would cook in a hypothetical situation.

#### Give us some Gaga!

Taylor Swift and Beyonce are among the artists set to perform next month at the Grammy Awards. Yeah, no surprise considering they scooped up what seems like 172 nominations. Other performers include the Black Eyed Peas, Maxwell and Lady Antebellum—with more to come. Dear Grammys, please set Adam Lambert loose on the stage.



#### Jo Bro gets funky

Nick Jonas (left) says his new band, the Administration, allows him to "explore a little more of my roots

as an artist and musician." The album template "was '60s and '70s funk-rock and, at times, soulful rock," Jonas tells billboard. com about "Who I Am," which will be released Feb. 2.

#### T.I. out

T.I. got an early Christmas present Tuesday when he was released from prison in Forrest City, Ark., to a halfway house after serving seven months of a one-year sentence, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. The rapper,

whose real name is Clifford Harris Jr., was convicted on weapons charges. "I need some cash. I'm spending all

on my medical marijuana bills.

my money

They think I have glaucoma, but I just throw some crazy-

—Betty White on "The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson" on Monday

ass parties."



Snoopy is the top dog in pop culture. That's according to the American Kennel Club and **pawnation. com**, who polled nearly 76,000 people to find out the Top 125 pop culture dogs. They released the results, which included dogs from TV, movies, cartoons, art, music and sports, on Tuesday.

#### TOP 10 DOGS IN POP CULTURE

1. Snoopy

- 2. Texas A&M's Reveille
- 3. Scooby Doo
- 4. Eddie from "Frasier"
- 5. Pound Puppies toys
- **6.** The "Dogs Playing Poker" paintings
- 7. The song: "How Much is that Doggie in the Window?"
- Georgetown's Jack the Bulldog
- **9.** The song: "Who Let the Dogs Out?"
- Brian Griffin from "Family Guy"
- » For more, including a photo gallery, go to redeyechicago.com/ showpatrol



GETTY IMAGES FILE

\$150,000

Roughly the amount Carrie Underwood (left) is now hauling around on her ring finger. The recently engaged country star showed off her ring Monday, estimated at more than five carats by the Diamond Information Center. AP PHOTO